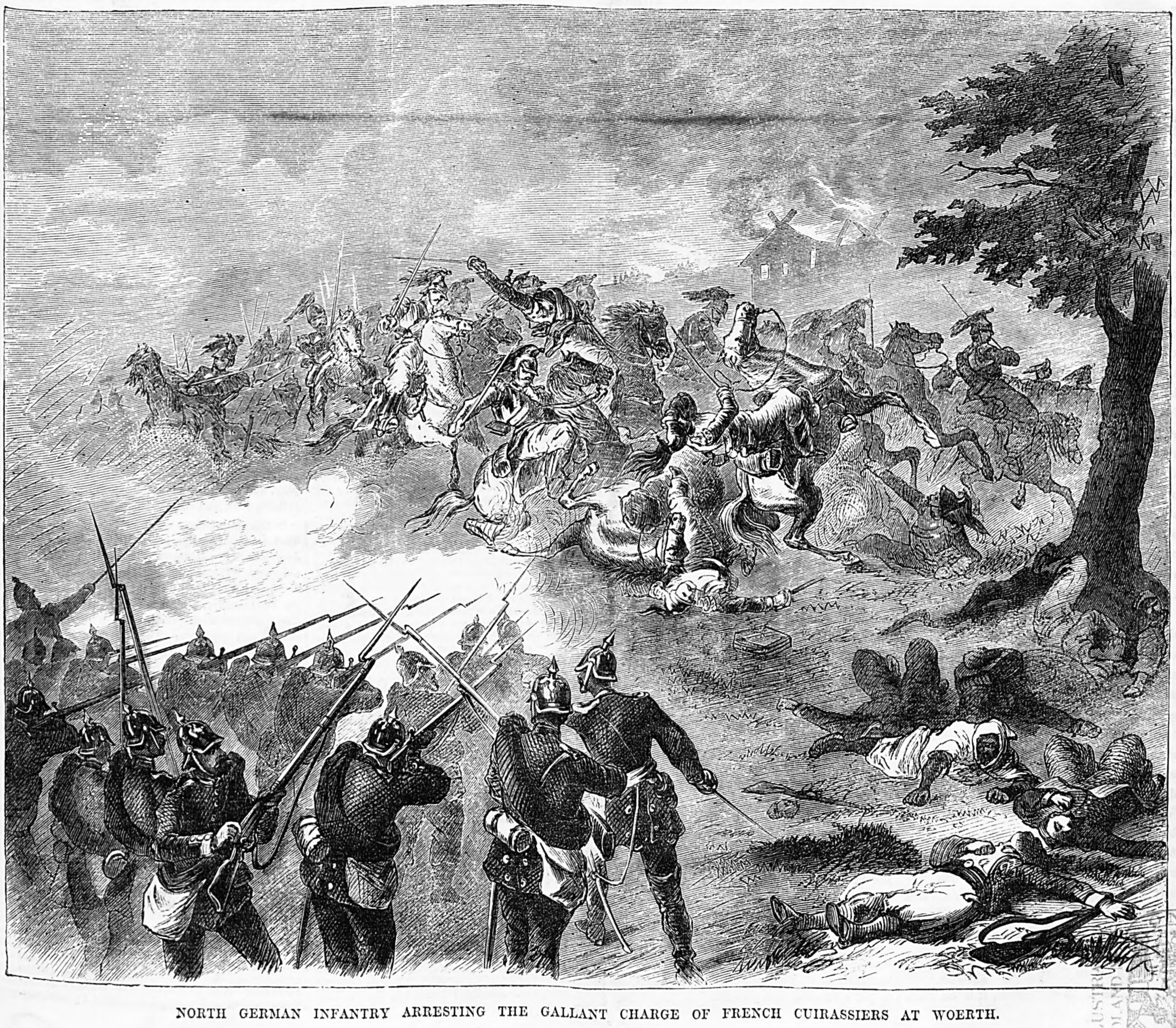
Illustrated Midland News.

No. 57.—Vol. III. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1870. Threepence.

AN EPISODE.

The artist to whom we are indebted for the brilliant sketch of a battle scene, reproduced on this page, calls that deadly reception of French cuirassiers by North German infantry an Episode of Woerth. If we look at the spectacle by the light of what we know of the history of the campaign from the middle of July until to-day it is something more than an Episode. It is a a symbol of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The rash, heroic band of horsemen coming down the hill to their death, arrested and thrown back in confusion and ruin at a stage of the declivity where it would hardly have been possible to stay their course by the drawing of the reins upon their chargers, make a picture of the part the French have played from the outset of the struggle till the present hour. At the foot of the slope stand a party of infantry, a living fortress whose guns are breech-loaders and whose fixed bayonets form an impregnable wall of steel. Behind the hapless cavalry on the hill one sees no army, to come on and revenge the slaughter of the chosen few, and there is no artillery at hand to make their work easier among the foe. Behind the infantry, in the foreground, we know there are countless legions, and great guns raining destruction upon the devoted cavalry. The part these infantry are playing is one of surety and confidence, and when they have received the body of horsemen and destroyed them they will march at their own pace up the slope and over the ridge and on to Paris. Dramatically enough that handfull of foot soldiers represents the German cause in this war, and the sketch would do for a vignette, introductory to a history of this dreadful struggle from the marching forth of the army of the Rhine to the siege of Paris and the desperate, hopeless resolve to defend the beleaguered city. French *élan*, French daring, the French aggressive and dominant spirit have been overmatched by German plain strength, hardihood, and military science, and the age may look upon that episode on the glacis by the town of Woerth as upon a prophetic vision of years and perhaps of ages to come. The work that has been done during these two months, so strikingly typified in this tableau, is not for 1870 but for a long coming period beyond which we cannot penetrate.



NORTH GERMAN INFANTRY ARRESTING THE GALLANT CHARGE OF FRENCH CUIRASSIERS AT WOERTH.

AUTUMNAL.

The fruit is ripe and falling. It is abundant almost beyond precedent. There is always a large amount of waste in these prolific seasons. In the spring the gardeners grow tired of gathering gooseberries; in the autumn the apples hang as long as they please, and afterwards lie under the trees and decay. In counties of rich soil and sparse population wander where you may, in these September and early October days, you will see one crop at least that will never be fed off clean. Is it possible that on this little bit of overcrowded land the people do not want all the wholesome food that the earth produces? Put two sets of facts together. Last winter thousands of English people were starving. Every large town had its hungry host. There were relief committees, special charity lists, soup kitchens, distributions of bread, labour tests, deaths from famine, and incipient food riots. The country, having no war to think about, and no martial sick and wounded to provide for, was aghast at the spectacle presented by our famishing thousands. Since then the seasons have hardly half run their rounds, and we are, here at home, familiar less with distress than with a certain aspect of profusion. It happens that there are more of some things than we know what to do with. It is impossible effectually to dodge the suggestion that arises upon the contemplation of these facts. Ours must be a very imperfect state of civilization. We want a little more science, greater facilities of locomotion and conveyance, increased ingenuity in turning the produce of the soil to account in the sustenance of the multitude. There was a time, hardly beyond the recollection of living men and women, when the special productions of one locality were almost an unknown commodity at a distance of half a hundred miles. Butter in Somersetshire was worth fourpence a pound, and in London it realized six times that sum. Fish, at certain seasons of plenty, was sold at a nominal price near the landing-place, and was an unattainable luxury a few miles inland. The change from the old system to the new is far from complete. We are, in fact, but in the infancy of the science of economy. We waste at one end of a line and starve at the other. There are a few examples of wise commercial dispensation amongst us. In the towns and villages of a considerable portion of the West of England, at almost any season of the year, in the course of a day the visitor may see tons of dried cod fish from Newfoundland bought and sold at about 2d. per lb. Besides bread and vegetables it is the principle diet of a large proportion of the inhabitants. The provision is wholesome and agreeable. The price it realizes pays for catching, and curing, and carrying, and it feeds the people. The supply of fish in the northern seas is practically unlimited, but the commodity does not reach far inland even in this narrow island, for lack, apparently, of a sufficiently economical land conveyance. Additional and more complex difficulties stand in the way of the utilization of our surplus fruit crops in seasons of extra abundance. Not only is it impracticable to carry the burden from the locality of plenty to that of scarcity without too greatly increasing the extrinsic value of the article, but we have not learned how to preserve and utilize some of this wealth. Certain problems want solving. We require a new method of economising labour in the collection of surplus crops, new schemes for preserving the produce or for converting it, say, into animal food, less costly modes of carriage, less cumbrous and time-wasting marketing machinery. These are, on the face of them, rather impracticable notions. There is no very definite hint in them of how to better the present condition of things. Nevertheless, it is on such lines as these that the improvements in social economy of the last half century have run. The wealth-producing autumn of abundance, after a season of scarcity and destitution, never comes without suggesting reflections on imperfections in the management of the country's household. In former times famines were frequent, because men had not learned the first rudiments of providence. We have acquired the first rudiments and that is all.

ART CRITICISM.

Who understands a picture? What a vast quantity of words have been wasted on this question. What theories have been raised about cultivated taste, educated eyesight, knowledge of the first principles of Art, the second principles—if there be such—the third principles—the practice. Must we know the use of the brushes? Must we have been taught to draw, to mix paints, to smear them upon canvas, and to converse in the terminology of the studio? One of the oldest of English proverbs replies epigramatically to these and a thousand similar queries. Knowledge is power. Which means that all knowledge is nearly related to other knowledge, on the principle which prompts us to say there is nothing so successful as success. But apart from these truisms it should never be conceded that technical initiation is essential to the formation of a judgment upon the intrinsic excellence of Art productions. Art suffers by the pretence. It is the business of the artist to give artificial and permanent form to real and fleeting impressions, and every man is a judge of the result in proportion to his sense of the subject treated. In all our impressions there is a mixture of thought. The sunset, the horse, the green field, as we look upon them, are tinged by our intelligence, and whoever is acquainted with the aspect of sunset, horse, or green field, and brings the same intelligence to bear upon the examination of the picture as he has been in the habit of bringing to bear on the subject itself, is, in some sense, a judge of the quality of the work. We say in some sense: we mean that he, within the circle of his own mental range, knows whether the artist has made any mistake. There are two modes of quality in Art: truth and greatness. There are truthful artists on every rung of the ladder of intelligence, and each man paints for the satisfaction of those who rise no higher than himself. There is a common ground of understanding between him and those spectators, and they can tell him—what he might, indeed, know for himself if he would—how much his skill of hand has fallen short of the reproduction of his impression. That it should fall short is inevitable, for representation is by its nature imperfect. Here, then, is a wide field of criticism in which every man may be a professor, when he has learned to overcome the strange tendency to fallacy which besets us all more or less: the warp of mind which makes it difficult to look upon a picture with the same mode of vision which we employ in inspecting the subject. The real limit to the critic's powers of judgment are found in the limits of his capacity of intelligence. We may judge of the truthfulness of a work of Art within our own range, and form some opinion of its correctness beyond our range, but the greatness of a very great work is far beyond the powers of estimation vouchsafed to most of us. The best rule we can follow, then, in forming an opinion upon Art productions is, first, to avoid fallacy, giving the work the same chance we render to nature; then to adjudicate upon its truth and falsehood; and then deferentially to seek to judge of its greatness, never forgetting that many walk in the same ways and see more than we see in the world; and when the artist has a vision which obviously reaches further than ours we should leave it to more kindred and therefore more capable judges than ourselves to put a value on the picture.

THE NEW POSTAGE ACT.

This Act comes into operation to-day, the 1st of October. The Act provides that from and after the 30th September, 1870, there may be sent by post between places in the United Kingdom, at the rate of one halfpenny—1, a post card; 2, a book packet, or pattern, or sample packet not exceeding 2oz. in weight, or if exceeding 2oz., then for one halfpenny for every 2oz. or fractional part of 2oz.; 3, a registered newspaper (with or without supplement or supplements), and one halfpenny is to be also the postage on registered newspapers (with or without supplement or supplements) in packet of two or more, but the packet is not to be liable to a higher rate of postage than the rate chargeable on a book packet of the same weight. The Postmaster-General, with the approval of the Treasury, is authorised to make regulations as to prepayment, dimensions, and *maximum* weight of packets, the nature of the covers, &c., and such other regulations as from time to time seem expedient for the better execution of this act. The new Act repeals from and after the 30th of September, five Acts, or parts of them, passed in 1836, 1840, 1848, 1853, and 1855, but the repeal is not to affect (among other things) "any right, title, obligation, or liability accrued before that repeal takes effect,"—words which appear to secure, for the usual limited period, the free transmission of newspapers with impressed stamps published on or before the 30th of September. In case of need ordinary letters are to have a preference even over post cards, for the Act provides that where the despatch or delivery from a post office of letters would be delayed by the despatch of delivery therefrom at the same time of book packets, pattern or sample packets, or post cards, they may, subject and according to post-office regulations, be detained in the post-office until the next despatch or delivery. The Inland Revenue Commissioners are to provide proper dies and other implements for denoting by adhesive, or embossed, or impressed stamps, or otherwise the postage duties payable under this Act; it will not be lawful to use for a letter, &c., sent by post an embossed or impressed stamp removed from the paper or card on which it was embossed or impressed, although such stamp has not been before sent by post or used. Newspaper stamps in hand, rendered useless by this Act, will be allowed for as spoilt stamps. Any publication coming within the following description is, for the purposes of the Act, to be deemed a newspaper,—that is to say, any publication consisting wholly or in great part of political or other news, or of articles relating thereto or to other current topics, with or without advertisements; but it must be printed and published in the United Kingdom, at intervals of not more than seven days, and printed on a sheet or sheets unstitched, and it must have the full title and date of publication printed at the top of the first page, and the whole or part of the title and the date of publication printed at the top of every subsequent page. The following is, for the purposes of this Act, to be deemed a supplement to a newspaper,—that is to say, a publication consisting wholly or in great part of matter like that of a newspaper, or of advertisements, printed on a sheet or sheets, or a piece or pieces of paper, unstitched, or consisting wholly or in part of engravings, prints, or lithographs illustrative of articles in the newspaper; such publication in every case being published with the newspaper, and having the title and date of publication of the newspaper printed at the top of every page, or at the top of every sheet or side on which any such engraving, print, or lithograph appears. The proprietor or printer of any newspaper within the above description, or of any publication which regard being had to the proportion of advertisements to the other matter therein, is not within the above description, but which was stamped as a newspaper before the passing of the Act 18 and 19 Victoria, cap. 27, may register it at the General Post-office every year in such form as the Postmaster-General directs, paying a registration fee not exceeding 5s.; the Postmaster-General may from time to time revise the register, and remove therefrom any publication not being a newspaper, and his decision (or that of the Treasury in case of appeal) on the admission to or removal from the register of a publication shall be final. Every publication for the time being on the register will be deemed a registered newspaper for the purposes of this Act, and will be deemed a newspaper for the purposes of any postal arrangement or convention with a colonial or foreign Government. Existing Treasury warrants and Post-office regulations relating to the postage on newspapers, book-packets, and pattern or sample packets, passing between the United Kingdom and places out of it are continued until altered. On any question whether a publication not being a registered newspaper is a newspaper or a supplement, or whether a packet is a book-packet or pattern or sample packet within this Act or any Treasury warrant or Post-office regulations, the decision of the Postmaster-General, or of the Treasury in case of appeal, shall be final. If any registered or other newspaper, supplement, publication, packet, or post-card is sent by post otherwise than in conformity with this Act or any Treasury warrant or Post-office regulations, it is to be either returned to the sender or forwarded to its destination, charged with postage not exceeding letter postage, or without any additional charge, as the Postmaster-General, with the approval of the Treasury directs.

The Place of Refuge, during this hot weather, STEELE'S HAIRCUTTING SALOONS. The Largest and Coolest in the three Kingdoms. Extra Assistants to meet the large demands for Shampooing with eggs, &c. Streams of warm, tepid, and cold water—a delightful operation—a necessity and a luxury. Moderate charges. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn*, and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham.

AMUSEMENTS IN THE MIDLANDS.

Miss Bateman's *Leah* filled the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, seven successive nights. The audience was very large on the last presentation of the piece on Monday. On Tuesday evening Miss Bateman began to appear as *Mary Warner* and the house was closely crowded from the floor to the roof. The gifted actress was received with perhaps even greater enthusiasm in this part than in that of *Leah*. This was owing to the more ordinary and natural interest of the drama. "Mary Warner" is a cleverly constructed and well written piece, and the situations are such as appeal to the common feelings of every-day life. There is no situation in it displaying Miss Bateman's special forte so distinctly as do the salient scenes in "Leah." The actress has a certain classic talent, and the character of the Jewess is lofty and heroic. In "Mary Warner" the finest piece of acting is that in which, after five year's separation, she, a self-sacrificed outcast, meets her child by accident in her husband's drawing-room. It is safe to say that there is no woman on the stage who can equal Miss Bateman in that fine passage of pathos. She is, indeed, supreme in pure pathos. The play was much better rendered in the other parts than was "Leah." Mr. Vernon, who was only a moderately good *Rudolph*, is an admirable *George Warner*, and every other part is efficiently and, indeed, excellently sustained. The farces, too, are very well acted. Miss Bateman will play the part of *Mary Warner* to-night and for several evenings to come. Next Thursday she takes her benefit, and on Friday bids farewell to Birmingham.

At the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, "Little Em'ly" has been the attraction during the past week. This play, like all others that have been adapted from Dickens, shows that the great novelist's works cannot be successfully dramatised. At the same time we think "Little Em'ly" is the most complete adaptation from Dickens we have witnessed. On Tuesday evening His Highness the Nawab Nazim of Bengal and suite were present, and there was a good house. Mr. Eldred as *Dan'l Peggotty* almost overdoes his part—he rolls about too much, but he has great power over his hearers, and makes some good points. Mr. G. F. Rowe's *Micawber* is wonderfully correct and funny. When he walked through the door on to the stage we could almost imagine "Phiz's" caricature had become a living thing, and so indeed it has. His make up is complete, and his face is naturally *Micawber's*. We are almost convinced that he is like *Micawber* privately, in looks and manners. *Wilkins Micawber* has, in fact—turned up, and we hope the public will make the most of him. *David Copperfield* (Mr. Graham) was well dressed and looked nice. The character is almost a useless one in the play. He does nothing and says nothing that is at all extraordinary, and often seems to be where he is not wanted. Mr. Mat Ratcliffe plays his part to perfection. He has turned himself into Dickens's *Uriah Heep* with wonderful success. Mr. Warner as *Ham* displays pathos, but is too gentlemanly. *Traddles* is too old. Miss Susan Montague's part as *Little Emily* is not arduous. She plays her part nicely. *Rose Dartle* found a good exponent in Miss Rose Lisle. *Mrs. Micawber* (Miss Kate Kearney) should have been mentioned before. She is worthy of *Wilkins*, and this is saying much. We have not one fault to find with her. "Little Em'ly" is a good wholesome play, and one that should be seen by mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters.

In the amusements of the week we must not omit to refer to the great Birmingham Onion Fair, which is celebrated with very much of the old glory. The leading attraction for the holiday-makers is Wombwell's Menagerie, which arrived on Wednesday, and perambulated the town. The caravans were preceded by a procession of camels and elephants. The collection of animals is a large and interesting one, and the performances are remarkable.

At the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, "The Barricade of The French Revolution, 1848" is being produced with success.

"Behind the Curtain" is being played at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, the principal characters being sustained by Mr. Vandenhoff, Mr. Marcus Elmore, Mr. H. R. Teasdale, Mr. F. V. Villiers, Miss Juliet Desborough, Miss Wingfield. The summer season closes this week.

Coal in Japan.—The production of coal in Japan is increasing. Last year witnessed the opening of the first coal mine worked upon European principles, the Takashima Mine. Mr. Madden, chief engineer of H.M.S. Ocean, after a severe trial of the coal on board his steam launch, says he considers it equal in general steaming properties to English north country coal, and five best Welsh equal to seven Takashima. Mine products are likely to prove of great importance in Japan. A great part of the country is evidently full of underground treasures of petroleum.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has conferred the rectory of Little Chart upon the Rev. Thomas D. C. Morse, minister of the temporary church of St. Mary Magdalene, Addiscombe.

The oak trees are this year loaded with acorns. In the deer parks the bucks are thriving fast on the dropped acorns, and in several districts they are being harvested for pig feed in winter.

The fruit crop in Devonshire has been most abundant, and apples are exceedingly plentiful so much so that some farmers have offered to sell cider at the pound's mouth at 10s. per hogshead. This price is, of course, exceptional, but it is believed that cider throughout the county will be unusually good and cheap.

Port Darwin and Port Augusta Telegraph.—The South Australian Government have now a formidable enterprise on hand, nothing short of the establishment of a telegraph line from Port Darwin to Port Augusta. The cost of establishing this line, which will run quite across the Australian continent, is officially estimated at £130,000.

Australian Telegraphy.—It is interesting to note, in connexion with submarine cables about to be laid off the Australian coast, that it has been ascertained that the bed of the Gulf of Carpentaria is composed of mud in which a cable would bury itself, so that it would be protected from any adverse influences, climatic or otherwise. Submarine routes between Java and Australia are not considered to present any serious difficulties.

The Church Congress of 1870.—The Church Congress of the present year will be held at Southampton under the presidency of the Bishop of Winchester. The evening service will be on Tuesday, October 11, in the churches of Holy Rood and All Saints, the sermon at Holy Rood being preached by the Bishop of Oxford, and at All Saints' by the Bishop of Salisbury. Immediately afterwards, the inaugural address will be delivered by the Bishop of Winchester.

Belgian Coal.—The exports of coal from Belgium in the first six months of this year amounted to 1,843,414 tons, against 1,640,823 tons in the corresponding period of 1869, and 1,759,712 tons in the corresponding period of 1868. France took 1,772,138 tons of Belgian coal to June 30 this year, against 1,573,169 tons in the corresponding period of 1869. The commercial relations of Belgium with France are now, however, greatly disturbed by the war, and the Belgian coal trade has been drifting in consequence into a state of dulness and depression.

Fires in Central America.—The Cathedral in San Salvador narrowly escaped destruction by fire on the 24th of July, when, during the celebration of the feast of "Nuestra Senora del Carmen," the immage of that Saint caught fire. The flames extended to surrounding ornaments, and it was only due to the strenuous exertions of the worshippers that the building was not totally destroyed. Towards the end of July the tower of the Cathedral in the city of Leon was struck by lightning, and damage similar to that suffered by the Cathedral in Panama about the same time appears to have been done.

The Duc D'Aumale.—The French elections will not now take place, but at the same time considerable interest attaches to the circumstances connected with the intended candidature of the Duc d'Aumale. The exact text of the despatch which the Duke sent in answer to the offers made to him on several sides to elect him to the Constituent Assembly was as follows:—"Always ready to serve my country, I accept the candidature. This is my programme: Actual adhesion to the Government which fights and negotiates. Future adhesion to the Government freely chosen by the Constituent Assembly. Honourable peace. Liberty—order—probity."

The Social Science Congress wound up its proceedings at Newcastle on Wednesday with a general meeting of the members and officers of the Association, at which Sir W. Armstrong took an elaborate review of the session, and resolutions were adopted expressive of thanks to all who had in any way contributed to its success. Subsequently there was a pleasure excursion by special train to Alnwick Castle, the seat of the Duke of Northumberland, who has presided over the Congress this year, and an inspection of this noble ducal residence was supplemented by a large number of the visitors partaking of the hospitality of the owner. Leeds is to be honoured by the Association next year, and Plymouth the year after.

Mr. Oliver P. Morton, who has just accepted the post of American Minister in Londen, is a Western politician of considerable distinction. Born in Indianopolis in 1823, he graduated at the University of Miami, and practised for some years as a lawyer. He took an active part in Indiana politics, and in 1864 he became Governor of his native State. This office he held throughout the civil war, and distinguished himself by his vigour and energy in raising volunteer regiments for the North. In 1867 he was elected to represent Indiana in the United States Government, and soon became one of the leading members of the Republican party in Congress. In politics he approximates rather to the advanced than the moderate section of the Republican party; but his Republicanism, like that of all Western statesmen, is of a far less bitter tone than that of the Eastern Republicans.

Fatal Fire.—A disastrous fire, attended with fatal results, broke out on the premises of Messrs. Bush and Co., Manufacturing Chemists, Liverpool-street, Bishopgate, London, on Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock. So rapid was the progress of the conflagration that the manager, Mr. Woolley, was suffocated, as were also a woman, a girl, and a boy. A man named Stephen Burne made a gallant attempt to save the live of a woman, in which he succeeded. He climbed up the water pipe and dragged the poor creature, in a fainting state, from a window. In his heroic effort to save the life of a fellow creature, he sustained some injuries, but, happily, not of a serious character. His conduct attracted the attention of several gentlemen who have raised a subscription in his behalf. The fire was extinguished by the fire brigade, under the superintendence of Captain Shaw, before it could communicate with the adjoining premises.

GENERAL TURR ON WAR.

General Turr, an able and accomplished Hungarian officer and diplomatist, in a letter to a friend in England, gives a lucid and exceedingly interesting review of the war. He says—"The King of Prussia routed the Austrians at Sadowa and the French at Sedan, and now 'betrayal' is the cry of the vanquished. Yet Prussia was victorious in Bohemia, because Benedek was not daring enough: and now she is victorious in France, because the French have been too rash. In the campaign of 1866 the Prussians committed the fault of separating their armies and placing them at too great a distance from each other. If Benedek had then attacked with rapidity and energy he might have separately destroyed the armies of Prince Frederick Charles and of the Crown Prince. In the present campaign the Prussians have been very prudent; their forces and those of Southern Germany have been divided into three armies of 200,000 to 250,000 men each, and these have been so directed that they could always be united in case of need for mutual support. In order to check and engage these enormous masses of men France opposed three separate *corps d'armées*, each from 35,000 to 40,000 strong, the rest of the army being at such a distance that neither Frossard nor McMahon could be supported when hard pressed. Surely the French ought not to have forgotten what Napoleon the I. said—'Every army whose various corps cannot be united on a given point within twenty-four hours, is an army badly placed.' In consequence of having neglected this precept, neither the bravery of the French troops nor the tenacity of McMahon sufficed to keep the Prussians at bay. The French army performed miracles of valour. Pressing to the attack, the French flung themselves upon fresh compact masses, till they saw their flanks overlapped and turned. This was done at Wissenburg, at Forbach, at Woerth, and it was repeated before Metz on the 16th and 18th of August, during the heroic struggle sustained by Marshall Bazaine. Had the movement attempted by McMahon to relieve Bazaine been successful, it would have constituted a grand event in the annals of war; but a rapid and skilful countermarch of the Prince Royal enabled him to join the Prince of Saxony in time to surprise the French army, to check it, to cause it to contend with overwhelming numbers, and after 3 days fighting to lay down its arms. It is true the French might have gained the Belgian frontier, at the cost perhaps of 30,000 lives; but a capitulation was preferred, which humanely saved the lives of many brave men. I do not know which to admire most, the rapidity with which the Prussian and German army of the Crown Prince changed direction and executed this movement, or the skill of the commissariat, which succeeded during this rapid march in maintaining 250,000 men in an enemy's country, with their numerous cavalry horses, staff equipage and all. On the contrary, the French, who were operating in their own country, suffered from a deficiency both of provisions and even ammunition. It is impossible to stigmatise too strongly the culpable negligence of the French commissariat and transport services, which might at least have called to mind the letter which Napoleon III. himself wrote from Alessandria during the Italian war of 1859, to the Intendance Génerale of the French army, and in which he recommended precisely the method which the Prussians have adopted, who always had a good supply, while the French commissariat allowed French troops to starve on their own soil. The whole of France is to blame for the reverses she has sustained. The Emperor, the Government, the Diplomatic circle, all sections of the Legislative Body, and the nation at large, ought to accept, each and all, a due share of the responsibility for their great disaster. When the Emperor and Marshal Niel had elaborated their first great project of military law, by virtue of which every citizen would have become a soldier, the attitude of the Legislative Assembly and the nation proved that this wise project had not the slightest chance of being adopted, and these insisted on a different course, the result of which we see to-day. The Government ought not to, could not, have been ignorant that the French army was not sufficiently numerous to contend with the Prussian and German forces, and for this reason it ought carefully to have abstained from exciting French *Chauvinism*, so rash and inflammable as it is. At any rate before commencing the campaign, it might have secured allies, bound by the same interests. After the first reverse sustained by France, all sympathy became at once mute, and shut itself up in trembling and expectant selfishness. Of this we have ample proof, and thus France, who has in her time aided all the world with a generosity apt to err on the side of excesses, has been left to struggle unaided when fortune has gone against her. She has not even been able to engage on her side the good offices of a serious diplomatic effort at mediation, and yet in the hour of danger others would have invoked her first, and probably she would have been the first to come to the aid of another. Unhappy France! she is expiating her errors, and in a cruel manner. She believed that her wealth would prove a tower of strength. Riches have never saved any country. It is a long time since Solon told the King of Lydia, 'It is not by gold, but iron, that you may hope to escape, for if an enemy with more iron than yourself should assail you he will soon take your gold.' The French military system has been put to the test. It is deplorable. France ought no longer to hesitate to adopt the Prussian system. Every citizen must learn simple field movements and the use of arms. Every officer of the active army and reserves must study topography in addition to other necessary requirements. There is no doubt in military minds that three or four hundred thousand good and seasoned soldiers must conquer millions of men merely carrying guns, half *bourgeois* and half soldiers. But if these masses were sufficiently disciplined and organised, and were they supplied with artillery as well as small arms, it would be a very different thing. What is to come of the present invasion? What will be the issue of these rapidly succeeding events? The Prussian army is victorious—it has routed the French army; but it should understand that it will not conquer France. It has proved itself the stronger, but it has only had to contend at any time with 140,000 men, and it has already itself lost a third of its effective force. If Prussia succeed in exacting too rigorous conditions, peace itself will be but an armistice. And if a government could be found to accept such conditions, the struggle between the two peoples would be renewed. Alsace and Lorraine are thoroughly French. It is difficult to tear a province from a country to which it has belonged for ages, and from which it is unwilling to be detached at any price. Within six years France, by the alteration of her military system, could have two million of soldiers. Nor should Germany forget what she owes to France. The principles of 1789 first rendered progress attainable in a country formerly so completely feudal. How many little principalities did Napoleon I. efface; and has not Count Bismarck himself avowed that he owes his success in 1866 in great measure to Napoleon III.? Thanks to her own strength Germany can act at her pleasure, but her pride ought not to be allowed to affect her judgment, and if she persists in humiliating France she ought to recall the old saying "Hodie mihi, cras tibi." Pangermanism is in the ascendant, but it has not yet seen Panlatinism thoroughly arrayed in its path; and if the latter be too dull or unskilful not too see the danger which menaces it, let Germany look to the North, and she will perceive that Panslavism is taking stock, is concentrating itself and preparing to enter the arena of strife. If, abusing her success, Germany is pitiless now, ought she not to fear that, enlightened by such an example, Panslavism will collect all her forces to crush Germany in turn, by one grand effort, under the masses of her armed millions; and that if this should be so France will throw all her weight in with Russia against the common foe? As for us, my dear friend, we ought in every country to unite ourselves with honest men, and proclaim the necessity of forming a European senate, a kind of Amphictyonic Council, to judge of the differences between governments and to smooth their difficulties, and never to sanction an appeal to arms before having tried every possible means of conciliation. If this only prevented one or two wars, would it not confer a vast benefit on humanity? The cry of "impossible" will be raised. What matter? Some one must cast the first stone into the sea to form the mighty breakwater which arrests the progress of the waves and protects the inhabited shore from the fury of the storm.

The Belgian Tir.—It is stated that not a single Englishman is taking part this year in the Belgian rifle shooting competitions, and it is noted that very few of our countrymen are present even as spectators.

The State of Indiana can now boast of being free from public debt, as the treasurer and his bankers are ready to take up the few remaining outstanding bonds of the State, whether of the old debt or of the war debt of 1862-63.

Disturbances have again broken out among the Kirghiz tribes in Siberia, and many acts of robbery and murder committed by them are reported in the Russian papers. Shortly after the return of General Kryzanowsky to Uralsk, the news arrived that a large caravan had been attacked by the Kirghiz, and that they had also plundered several Government post-houses at Orsk, on the road from Taschkend.

Belgian Rails.—The exportation of rails from Belgium, which greatly increased last year, as compared with 1868, presented but a small farther advance in the first six months of 1870. Belgium exported, however, in the first six months of this year 19,566 tons of rails to Russia; to the Zollverein, 18,318 tons; to Turkey, 12,356 tons; to France, 4,109; to Italy, 3,832 tons; to the United States, 2,999 tons; to Sweden, 1,700 tons; and to Spain, 1,657 tons.

Death of a Clergyman by Drowning.—On Saturday morning a sad accident occurred at Lowestoft. The Rev. Horatio Charles Maurice, M.A., curate of Hampnet-with-Stowell, near Northleach, who has been staying at Lowestoft for a few weeks past, went out as usual to bathe, and being seized with cramp, it is supposed, as he was an excellent swimmer, went down, and was drowned. The reverend gentleman, who was between twenty-five and twenty-six years of age, had not been ordained more than two years.

Worcester Cathedral.—In the necessary excavations now being made in the Lady Chapel, in Worcester Cathedral, for the purpose of laying down a new pavement, it became necessary to remove three slabs lying on the floor at the extreme east end. Beneath one of these slabs was discovered a stone coffin containing the skeleton of a man partly enveloped in the fragments of a dress in which he had been buried. When the Archæological Association visited Worcester some years ago the effigy on this slab was assigned by Mr. Bloxham to Bishop William de Blois, who died 1236, and who laid the foundation of this part of the cathedral. The Rev. C. Boutel, who, with the Dean and the members of the Chapter, examined the remains on disinterment, expresses his conviction that the body was interred as represented on the coffin lid, in eucharistic vestments, of which the remains are recognizable. The following figures worked in gold and silver thread on a very rich silk have been recognized:—PAVLV (the S wanting)! The figure has in its hands a book and a drawn sword held erect. 2, IHOAN; 3, ANDRE; 4, IACOBVS; 5, BARTOLOMEVS; 6, DANIEL. Two pieces of rich gold fringe correspond in width with the compartments occupied by these figures. There are two other figures under canopies and on pieces of silk expanding in width to 4¼in. at the base. These are ADELBERTVS, crowned, with a sceptre, and NICOLAVS, with mitre and pastoral staff, his right hand in benediction. There is also a perfect *Agnus Dei*, worked with gold thread in a circle 1¾-inch in diameter. The other fragments contain portions of a beautiful border—probably the border of the chasuble—of a design resembling escallop shells. The coffin had evidently been previously opened, when, besides disturbing the remains, the episcopal ring, staff, the valuable parts of the mitre, chalice, and paten, unquestionably buried with the bishop's remains, were removed.

One Bottle Did It. That is the expression of many who have had their grey hair restored to its natural colour, after using one bottle of Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer. It is not a dye, it can do no harm. Every one who has used this preparation speaks loud in its praise. If you wish to restore your hair as in youth, and retain it through life, without delay procure this preparation. Sold by all Chemists. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London, [32

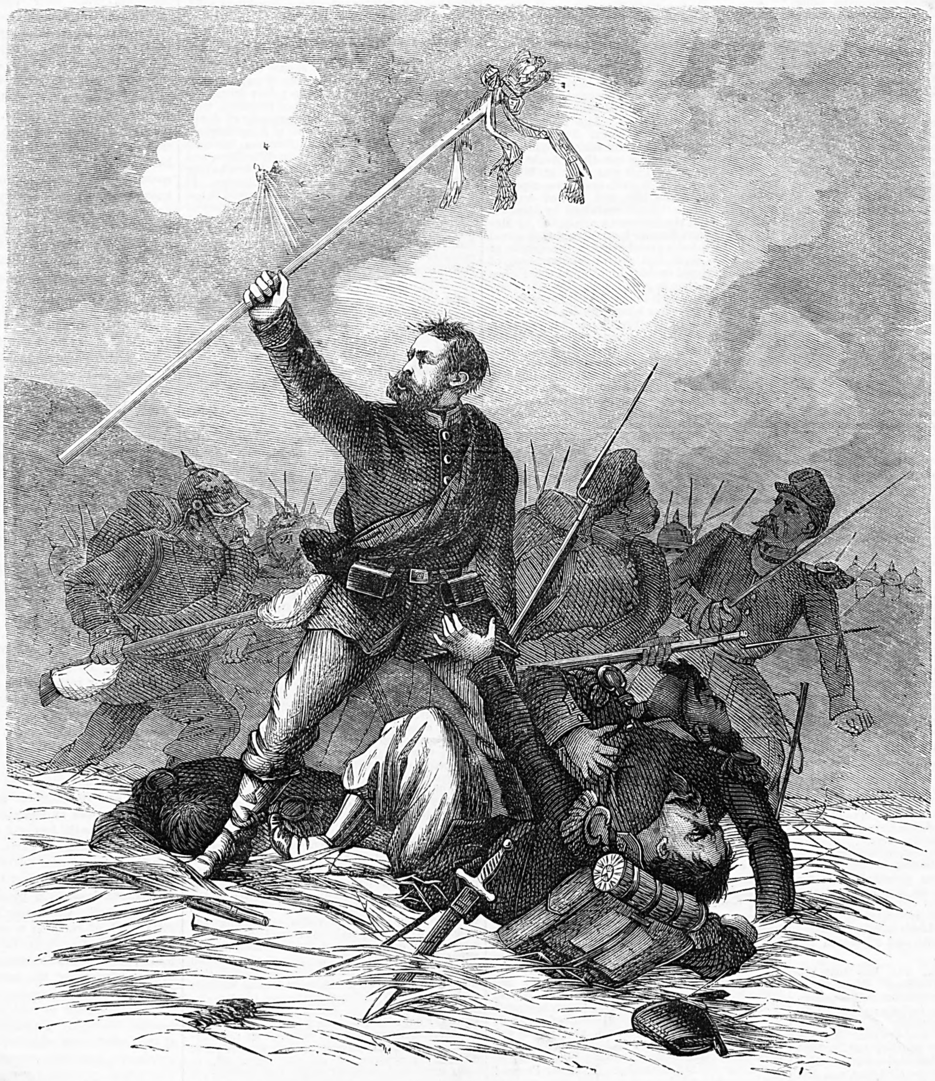
TABLE TALK.

Table talk is, perhaps, at its best when there is no intensely interesting and all-absorbing topic. The morning column of telegrams does not bring intelligence in the form most favourable to that mode of free discourse which displays the individuality of the speaker. In truth we have got to live too much upon telegrams, and everybody is level with everybody else in the matter of information. Since the leading items of the world's doings come each day by electricity it is the custom of the great majority of us to make ourselves content with just that amount of knowledge. So great is the influence of this condition of the intelligence market upon our habits, that where an exception occurs it is easy to note the difference by the result. An example presents itself in the case of English Parliamentary news. The debates appear in full in the London morning papers, and in telegraphic summary in the provincial dailies. Londoners, therefore, over their breakfast-tables, look through the full reports, reading at length what interests them and skipping the rest. Country people cannot do that. The metropolitan journals do not reach them in time for breakfast, and they read through a summary of the debates in their local papers. The difference gives the Londoner a great advantage. Without spending much more time over that part of his paper than his brother provincial reader, he probably gets through one or two of the best speeches, and by the end of the session he will know much more about the stuff our legislators are made of than he who confines himself to the summaries, who gets the budget speeches done into half-a-column, and the introduction of a bill for abolishing the Church into five minutes' reading. We may take that as an instance of the manner in which information is absorbed under the telegraphic system. But who, on the other hand shall say a word against telegrams? Let us avoid rhapsodies on so stale a subject. Save us from the diner out or the diner at home who has not ceased to expatiate on this marvel of science. The flash of intelligence, the words that fly past the wind, the machine that puts a girdle round the earth in forty minutes—if these things have not been sufficiently glorified, they have, at least, been exhausted as themes for grandiloquence. Still we must not forget our indebtedness. New things never precisely fill the place of old ones, but the age should not permit itself, in its regret for what is wholly lost, to undervalue the advantages of the new order of things. Sooner or later all our wants and all our yearnings will be satisfied. Railways, once such an odious deformity on the landscape, are growing picturesque. "Cuttings" will get to be as interesting as the escarpes of an ancient fortifications. The thick line of soil, crusted over with a few ages of vegetation, will be as good as Roman earthworks. Telegrams will get poetical. As yet, however, they rather put a rough edge on our feelings, our culture, and our converse at home. But Mr. Reuter, excellent friend as he is, has none of the romance about him that belongs to the new system of balloon intelligence. Here, at least, is something to talk about. Marshal Bazaine set the example of letting the outside world know how things are going on inside Mëtz by the despatch of balloons, but his missives mostly fell into the hands of the enemy. Not so the aërial post from Paris. The fragile and erratic messenger goes up in the dark hours, is beyond the Prussian lines before daylight and danger, and descends in provincial France. But that is not all. One comes to our island—this little speck of earth in a wide waste of sea—descending safely with its missive from M. Nadar, addressed to the redacteur of the *Times*, with particulars of the internal affairs of the beautiful city. The accomplished aeronant can measure the force of winds and currents and regulate the supply of air so as to render the fall of the little balloon within fifty miles or so of a certain spot extremely probable. Have any such means been provided for getting the letters of our special correspondents from Paris? Mr. Sala is in the city with the besieged. So are several other devoted public servants attached to the English press. They are writing every day. Their diaries already must be getting heavy with matter. Have they contrived any novel method of sending their missives to Fleet-street and Printing House-square? The *Telegraph's* "Special Commissioner" writes so marvellously small that he gets a column of matter on a very limited piece of paper. His caligraphy is admirably adapted to the sending of correspondence by the carrier pigeon. Enough of Mr. Sala's writing on the lightest of foreign post paper might be brought under the wing of the little bird to fill, perhaps, a couple of columns of large type in the *Telegraph*, and we could forgive the editor if he set up such an epistle in "caps." As yet, however, no special correspondent's letters have come from Paris since the lines of communication were cut.

Rosseter's Hair Restorer is the only preparation which can be confidently relied upon for restoring grey hair to its original colour. It assists nature in supplying the colouring properties which may have become deficient through age or disease. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle. [628

CAPTURE OF A FRENCH EAGLE.

A special and peculiar interest attaches to the picture presented on this page, representing the capture of an imperial eagle on the battle field near Woerth. Not only is it a true rendering of n actual incident of the battle, but it is engraved rom an original sketch made by a German officer wounded on the field. The episode took place on the southern heights of Woerth. There, where the battle raged at its hottest, after the French troops had three times charged, with a bravery and audacity which has extorted high praise even from their enemies, that warlike trophy of the Bonapartes was captured from the hand of a falling, dying Frenchman, by a soldier of the 3rd Posen Infantry who gradually were gaining ground in spite of the fine ardour and terrible onslaught of their foes. It was an evil omen for the imperial dynasty when that eagle was taken. The battle of Woerth was the turning point in the fortunes of the war. Up to the date of that conflict there was abundant room for the French to hope that the honour of the campaign would be theirs, but after Woerth there was never much chance of recovery, and this picture of the seizure of the eagle may be regarded as a representation of the fate of the Empire in the great war of 1870. Three weeks after that emblem was torn from the grasp of the dying Frenchman on the slopes of Woerth, Napoleon III. was made a prisoner on the slopes of Sedan.



CAPTURE OF A FRENCH EAGLE BY POSEN INFANTRY AT WOERTH.

THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE FORTIFICATIONS.

The picture occupying the upper half of the opposite page does not exhibit the destruction of the Bois de Boulogne proper. The complete clearing of the grand forest—the pride of France and the delight of every visitor and sojourner on the continent—ready as were the Parisians to accede to it in case of necessity—was left as a last resource in the defensive works of the capital. The woodmen in the picture are simply clearing away a breadth of trees and coppice along the glacis of the fortifications between the Passy and the Auteuil gates. This was carried out equally on the two opposite slopes of the valley running below the embrasures of these lines of cannon; and to a certain distance beyond the ridge of the glacis the topmost branches were lopped from the trees, in order to let in the sunlight and to clear a range of sight for firing the cannon with effect against the enemy. But, limited and partial as is the work of destruction, it is a very painful sight to the English hardly less than to the French. Unhappily the calamities of each week are so serious as to lead us almost to forget those of the week before. While we are presenting a picture pourtraying the unfortunate occurrences of a week or two ago the enemy has arrived at the walls and the inhabitants of the beautiful Paris are thinking less of the preservation of trees than of the saving of their magnificent palaces and galleries, their homes, their lives, and the very identity of their country.

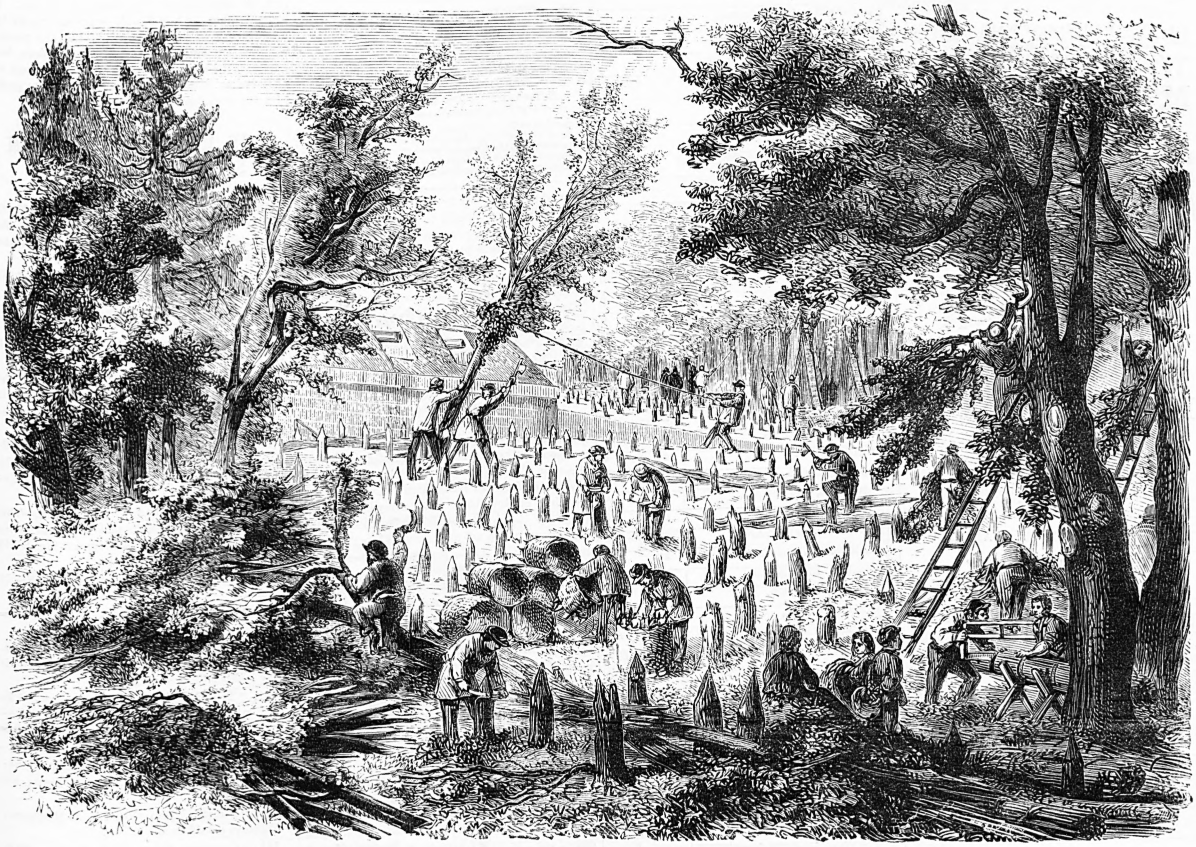
A SCENE ON THE PLACE DU CARROUSEL.

Willingly enough have almost the entire male population of Paris become military students. The National Guard received the arms distributed to them with a firm determination to use them vigorously against the enemy, and it is now pretty certain that there will be cause enough for the exercise of all their zeal and all the skill they are able to acquire. Several of the broad open spaces in the streets of Paris have been set apart for the giving of daily military instructions to the National Guard and various free corps. According to the reports received from time to time, these military students make very rapid progress. The engraving on the lower half of the opposite page represents a number of these citizen soldiers in the act of being put through their manual and platoon exercises on the Place du Carrousel.

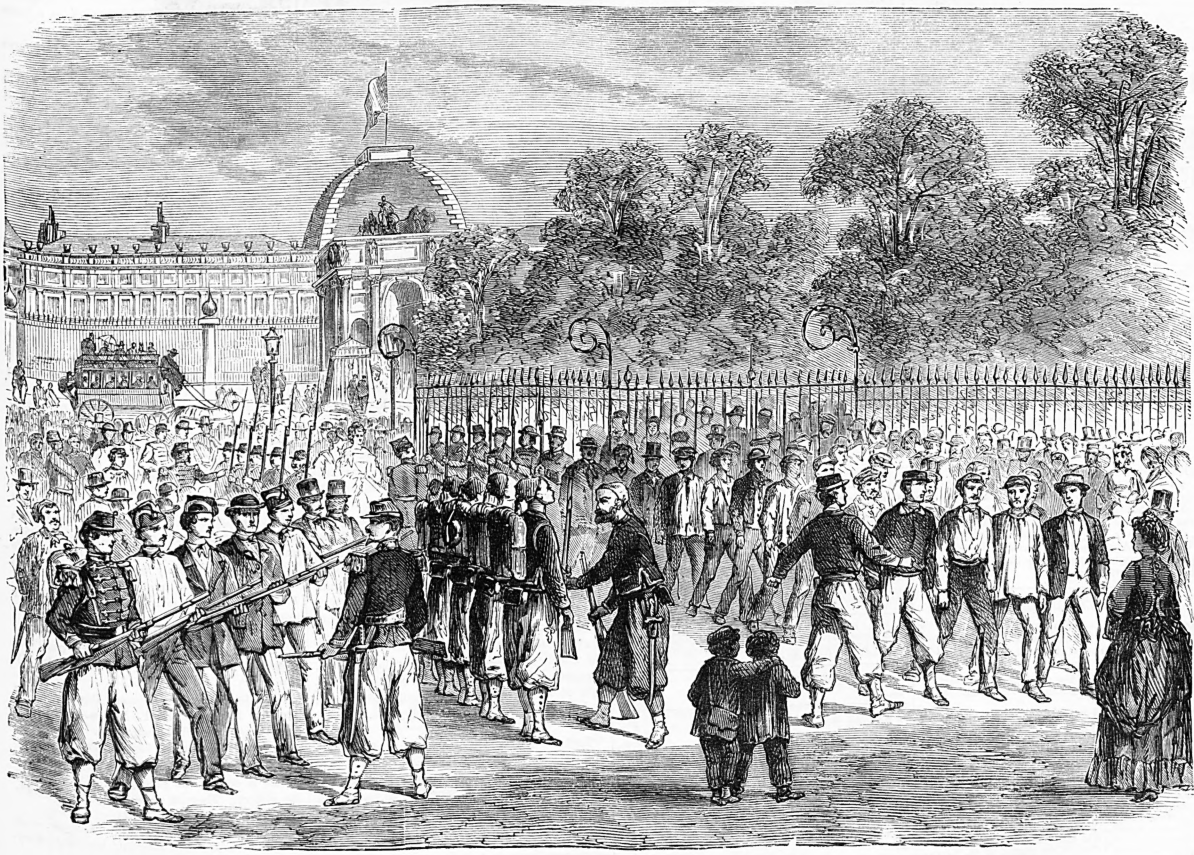
HERR JACOBY.—The following is from the speech which has led to the arrest of Herr Jacoby, at Königsberg, by the military authorities:—"Alsace and Lorraine, they say, were German 'property,' and must again become German. How? we ask; have, then, Alsace and Lorraine no inhabitants? Or are the inhabitants of these countries mere machines, which can be taken into possession at any moment, and of which one may dispose at will? Have they been deprived of all rights by the war? Have they become slaves, whose fate may be arbitrarily arranged by the conqueror? Even the most enthusiastic annexationist admits that the people of Alsace and Lorraine are body and soul Frenchmen, and will remain Frenchmen. However much, therefore, they may have opposed themselves to us, it would be against all right to compel them to become Germans, to incorporate them against their will with Prussia or any other German State."

THE OHIO.—The total value of the river commerce of the towns and cities of the Ohio is estimated at 715,000,000 dollars per annum. In this vast sum Cincinnati figures for 169,506,000 dollars.

A NEW PEER.—We have reason to believe, says the *Times*, that Her Majesty has been advised to confer a peerage on Sir J. Young, the Governor-General of Canada. He will take the title of Baron Lisgar, of Lisgar and Bailieborough, County Cavan.



CLEARING THE WAY FOR FORTIFICATIONS ALONG THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE.



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NOTICES.

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CLOCKS, „	£12		12
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NOTICES.

The A B C of Ornamental Design will be resumed in our issue of October 15, and continued from that date, we hope, without interruption.

The *Illustrated Midland News* of October 8, will contain a fine engraving representing the festival of
The Tissington Well Dressing.
A Portrait of Dr. Sheridan Muspratt.
English Topographical Scenes.
A number of War Pictures—including Marshal Bazaine on Horseback; the Assembling of the Garde Mobile; Investors in the French Loan; the Conveyance of the French Wounded into Metz; Trial of French Rioters; Bringing in Prussian Prisoners, &c.

On and after October 1st the *Illustrated Midland News* will be posted to Annual Subscribers for 13s. a year, *prepaid.* Post Office Orders should be made payable to Hatton and Co., 108, New-street, Birmingham.

The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS
BIRMINGHAM, OCT. 1, 1870.

Minor points of interest are sinking out of sight. Strasburg has fallen; Toul is taken. Paris has but one rival in her terrible but heroic position—only one fortress of importance in North Western France holding out like her herself against the foe. In Paris there is a vast army of recruits; in Metz there is an army of hardened veterans. Uhric has been compelled to surrender, though sadly the act goes against him; Bazaine holds still in his hands the possibility—the bare and improbable possibility—of saving France. Beyond question Bazaine is a great General. He has shown his talent on many a field. But for the political cross-purposes of the United States Government he would have seated Maximilian safely on the throne of Mexico. A mistake was made, for which it is not clear that Bazaine is responsible, which separated him from MacMahon at the very outset of this campaign, and since then he has been bound hand and foot. His efforts to escape with his army from Metz will rank among the most heroic acts of the French forces in this war, but circumstances, and the immense forces of the foe, were too much for him, and there he is in Metz, with no thought of yielding, though his men are dying of disease by hundreds every day. Metz is acknowledged to be one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. Should the fortunes of war give Marshal Bazaine a chance he may do something more than has been done yet for his countrymen to be proud of in this, for them, most wretched contest.

It is easier to expect great deeds, even now, at the hands of Bazaine's soldiers at Metz than from the inexperienced civilians of Paris, numerous as they are. It is difficult to say what Paris can do, except to wait for some unforseen turn of events which fortune may have in store for her. Against such forces as the Prussians have brought together and concentrated round the city walls such sorties as Trochu may find it possible to make could hardly be crowned with any useful measure of success. To kill a few Prussians, or a few thousands, however cheaply it might be done, would not much advance the French cause. As for waiting and enduring, it is quite certain that Germany outside, with all the world open to it, and a prosperous home as a base of operations, can wait longest.

Bad as is the case of Paris, and little chance as it has of doing good for itself from within, there is this one possibility in its favour. An army of, say, a couple of hundred thousand men might be raised outside the city, recruited by Spanish, Italian, and American Republicans. If such a force were commanded by an able and daring General it might succeed in doing that in attempting which MacMahon failed. Before the Battle of Sedan the German army had nothing to do but to meet MacMahon; now it has to invest Paris, wherein is an army of from three to four hundred thousand men daily receiving excellent military instraction. Those forces cannot be kept within the walls by a handful of Prussians. We are assured that there are now nearly a million of Frenchmen in arms. If King William can take his ease in a foreign and hostile country, with two enormous armies against him shut up in cities and a third getting ready to enter the field, he ought to be master of the world. Beyond doubt he has immense advantages, but it is not absolutely certain that the tide of fortune will run undeviatingly in his favour throughout the winter campaign.

The failure of the negociations for peace, and the close siege, have shut the Duc d'Aumale out from his political chances in France. He has had to wait a good many years and he must stand by now and perhaps see his country ruined. The Orleans family have suffered severe reverses, but they have much to answer for. With a little more unselfishness, a little more foresight and true patriotism, Louis Philippe might have averted the misfortunes and political mistakes of the last quarter of a century in France. It may be that the late King's son would profit by the lesson of his father's life, but the probabilities are against him. Louis Napoleon has split on the same rock which made shipwreck of his uncle. Kings and Princes are slow to profit by the teachings of history.

THE ROYAL BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.

[Fifth Notice.]

151. "Salmon Traps on the Llwr," North Wales. E. E. Müller.—The sunlight on the trees and hills is decidedly queer. The water too lacks transparency.

152. "A Footbridge, Carnarvonshire." J. E. Herbert.—Nothing in it to admire.

153. "Llauberris Pass." F. M. Muschamp.—Clever little picture.

154. "Llwr Bridge, North Wales." J. Godel. —Too hard. The distance is good.

155. "An old Song." T. Davidson.—The figure at the piano is admirable. It is heavy in colour. It is much like other pictures by the same artist.

156. "On the Welsh Hills." Charles W. Radcliffe.—The rocks are painted with great skill, and it is one of the best specimens in the Exhibition of success in getting the distance.

157. "The Lace Maker." Geo. Smith.—This picture is only remarkable on account of being priced at a £100 in the catalogue. We should think this is a preventive price.

158. "In the Study." George Smith.—Nicely painted.

159. "Stratford Church and Lock." A. Brundish.—A bright and pretty picture.

160. "Lock near Droitwich." Henry Chaplain. —The clouds are tastefully done. The rest is dirty looking.

161. "The Reverie." A. S. Lumley.—The great point in this picture should be the expression of countenance, which, it appears, has been altogether overlooked.

162. "Keeper's Pool, Sutton." Henry Dawson.—The picture is small, but its faults are great.

163. "Street in Dinan, France." A. Montague. —Displays considerable skill and taste.

164. "Cattle at a Stream." T. M. Fox. Here we have a brown reflection in the water from a green tree. The cows are well grouped, but not nicely painted.

165. "The Corsair." P. Leoin.—It is a noble picture, but the lady's face, we think, is a little namby-pamby.

166. "Troubadours." J. Robinson. The figures are well drawn. The effect is peculiar.

167. "La Venoe." George Pope. Life-like and pretty.—It is a pity the child is not a full figure.

168. "The Avon at Stratford." S. H. Baker. —The water is beautifully transparent and natural. The weeds on the water standing out in the shade are skillfully put in.

169. "A Spring Morning." Peter Deakin. —The tree is well done.

170. "Fruit." Alfred Brown.—The subject is stale.

171. "English Lilies." Mrs. M. Robinson.—We can't tell whether the lady is sitting, stooping, or standing.

172. "Passing showers." Edwin Taylor.—Light and shade good.

173. "Bean Thrashing, Shottering." Alfred Baker.—Well painted.

174. "Incident suggesting to Æsop his fable of 'Fortune and the sleeping boy.'" E. Armitage, A.R.A.—This is a beautiful work. The sleeping boy by the well is wonderfully well done.

175. "On the Machno, North Wales." E. G. Müller.—Nicely painted.

176.—"'What d'ye Lack?'" J. F. Lucas and G. B. Haycock.—He does not lack much whom this housewife addresses. She stands behind a trencher full of poultry, game, ripe grapes, and other excellent provender, and she is herself a not uncomely creature. The face is full of life and gets brighter as we look at it. There is some old-fashioned work in it, and of the good old sort.

177. "Valle Brucis Abbey." Walter Reeves. —This is a pretty landscape. The trees are perhaps a trifle stiff and of a colour too freshly green.

178. "Copernicus sees himself Burlesqued by Strolling Players." A. F. Patten.—A capital dramatic scene well wrought out. It contains some excellent studies of face and expression.

179. "Morris Banks, Esq." W. T. Munns, —This is one of the goodly list of portraits in the gallery. There is close and yet unexaggerated individuality in the work.

180. "A Mountain Stream." J. Syer.—A study of boulders and brawling rivulets. Very good, but hardly enough movement in it.

181. "Hallow-on-Severn, near Worcester." H. N. Lines.—The water is very pleasant.

182. "A Silent Prayer." M. Couradi.—Don't content yourself with a passing glance at this. It is not intended to strike amazement across a room. Examine it conscientiously and it is a beautiful picture. The poor girl, returning home from the doctor's, with a bottle of medicine in her basket, has run into the church to offer up a silent prayer. The figure, the expression, and the finish are admirable. Happy is the visitor to this exhibition who has put his name down to purchase this work at £78 15s. 0d.

183. "Lancaster." Henry Dawson.—A fine topographical scene, well wrought out. It is a valuable and interesting local picture.

184. "Ilfracombe. The First Heave of the Ground Sea." J. G. Naish.—The artist has no doubt given great study to this work, and he has priced it in the catalogue at 300 guineas. The phenomena of the ground swell are no doubt correctly rendered, but the painting does not quite do justice to the rocks of Ilfracombe and the moving waters that wash their feet. The scene wants more vitality.

185. "Antwerp;" 187. "Rouen." H. Schafer, —These form a pretty pair of pictures, but they are made a little too bright for either Antwerp or Rouen.

186. "Near St. Malo." H. K. Tayler.—A capital rough sea piece.

188.—"Winter Pastures: Hoar Frost." H. H. H. Horsley.—The ice-bound mere, the snowy landscape and snow-laden wintry trees are cleverly produced. The peculiar charm of a bright-winter's day is well preserved.

189. "Lime Kilns on the Severn." J. J. Hughes.—The bit of kiln is fairly done, but the water is not wet enough.

190. "Apple Blossoms, Nest, &c." Edmund Hall.—Pretty; but the blossoms and eggs are a little ostentatiously coloured. The little painting is marked "sold."

191. "Rain Blowing Up." J. E. Meadows.—A pretty good study, but the water is rather hard.

192. "Shells of the Ocean." S. B. Clarke.—Fisherman holding a sea-shell to the ear of a child. The figures and the expression of the faces are not very successful.

193. "'The Doctor's Coming!'" J. L. Lomas.—Here we begin with the Front West Room, having completed the circuit of the large gallery. A pretty good domestic group, but the faces want a little more character. The girl's figure at the door is, perhaps, the best.

194. "The Armed Knight, Land's End." A. B. Collier.—Sea and rock scene at the extremity of the Cornish coast. A little wanting in fervour of treatment.

195. "The Looking-glass." J. C. Parker.—Showing the baby its reflection in the mirror. A tolerable success.

196. "On Hampstead Heath." Helen M. Johnson.—A rather rough study.

197. "Rustic Bridge." A. MacCallum.—A large picture. It is difficult to get far enough from it in the room to allow the details to fall into their places. The artist has not done enough to ensure the production of the desired effects.

198. "All's Gone!" V. W. Bromley.—There is not much in the figure or the situation. The execution is very good.

199. "Wayfarers." Haynes King.—There is something rather good in the face of the poor girl carrying her baby forlornly on tramp.

200. "On the Look-out." J. H. Smith.—The deer on the cliff is very well drawn. Pose natural.

NEWS OF THE MIDLANDS.

Murder near Grimsby.—The village of Riby, six miles from Grimsby, was the scene on Friday night, of a most deliberate and cold-blooded murder. William Morris, a shepherd, in the employ of Mr. Edward Smith, a farmer, entertained a feeling of animosity against a fellow servant named Hicks, the latter being accused of taking the shepherd's oilcake to feed his horses with. Morris was a reputed "tell tale," and his fellow-labourers, to serve him out, composed a song, in which they derided his failings. This appears to have irritated the man, who was naturally bad tempered, and he had threatened to shoot them if they did not desist. On Friday night as Hicks was returning home, he had to pass Morris's cottage, at the moment of passing which he was deliberately shot by Morris, who had been lying in wait for him at his bed-room window with a loaded gun, which he discharged point blank, at a distance of a few yards only, into Hick's face, blowing off the lower jaw and inflicting other frightful injuries on the head, face, and neck. The poor fellow lingered in great agony for a few hours, and expired on Saturday night. Morris, after the murder, exhibited the greatest indifference, and on his wife saying "You have done it, what shall you do now?" he replied "I don't know: its done." He was apprehended the same night, and the gun was found reloaded in his chamber. Prisoner has ten children, is 45 years of age, and bore the reputation of a good servant, although possessing a very violent temper. The deceased was only 18 years of age.

The Tamworth Railway Accident—We gave last week a sketch of the scene of this terrible disaster. The adjourned inquest on the bodies of those who were killed, the Rev. Edwd. Healy, Roman Catholic priest, Samuel Taylor, engine-driver, and William Davies, stoker, was held on Saturday in the Tamworth Town Hall, before Mr. T. Dews, coroner for North Warwickshire. The inquiry lasted all day, and ended in a verdict of manslaughter against Evans in the three cases. Evans was released on bail.

The Illustrated Midland News Wayze-Goose.—The literary and artistic staff and *employés* on the *Illustrated Midland News* celebrated the first anniversary of the establishment of this journal by a dinner at the Great Western Hotel on Friday. Mr. Joseph Hatton occupied the Chair and Mr. Richard Gowing the vice-Chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, and hearty congratulations were exchanged on the success which in the first twelve months has attended this novel enterprise in provincial journalism.

The adjourned meeting of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce to consider the subject of the exportation of arms and amunition to France, was held at the Exchange, on Wednesday, when it was resolved that "The correspondence between his Excellency the Prussian Ambassador and Earl Granville, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon the question of prohibiting the exportation of contraband of war, having been published since the last meeting of the Council which met to consider this question, the Council is of opinion that it is inexpedient to continue the discussion at present, inasmuch as any alteration in the law during the continuance of the war would be in itself a breach of neutrality, as it would operate mainly in the interests of one or other of the belligerents."

Cambridge Fair.—The celebrated horse, onion, and wood fair commenced on Monday, and was in most departments the largest that has been held for some years. There was a very good show of horses and greater activity was manifested by the presence of agents purchasing horses for exportation to France, who bought a number of riding horses at from 30 to 35 guineas each. There was a fair show of hunters, selling at from 50 to 60 guineas each. Cart horses were rather scarce. Agricultural horses were in capital form, but the trade was rather slow. There was a large quantity of onions from Bedfordshire, which averaged from 3s. 6d. to 4s. a bushel. About the usual quantity of wood was piled and good prices realised. The weather was fine, and the attendance large. A brisk business was done in the hop trade by the most prominent London merchants.

Hydrophobia in Nottingham.—Several deaths from the bites of dogs have recently occurred in Nottingham, and a child is now lying at the General Hospital of that town suffering from the dreadful disease of hydrophobia. Dr. W. Tindal Robertson, one of the physicians of the hospital, has just addressed a letter on the subject to Mr. Patchitt, chairman of the Weekly Board of the institution, in which he says:—"Two of the sufferers have been children, and the bites in both these cases have been inflicted by small dogs not known to be rabid, and belonging to the family. If these wounds had been excised immediately, or soon after they were received, the terrible sequel would probably have been prevented; and my object in calling your attention to the matter, is that the public may in some way be advised that any one suffering from the bite of a dog should immediately be taken to the hospital or elsewhere, in order that proper steps may be promptly taken for the excision and proper treatment of the wound."

Fatal Fire at Derby.—About ten o'clock on Friday evening (23rd), Colliss, a member of the Derby borough police, perceived flames issuing from the top window of a three-storey house, occupied by Robert Greatorex, joiner, and situate in the Eagle and Child Yard, Queen Street. He gave an alarm, and the fire was extinguished in about half-an-hour, and on Inspector Green entering the room where the fire originated he discovered the charred remains of the tenant of the house in one corner. He appeared to be in a kneeling position, with his hands before his face. His clothes were burnt from his body. Deceased used the upper room of the house as a joiner's shop. About nine o'clock on Friday evening he went home, lighted a candle, and proceeded up stairs to the workshop. Some time afterwards his daughter-in-law noticed an unusual light up stairs, and mentioned the fact to her mother. The latter shouted up stairs, "Have you got something on fire?" and deceased answered, "Yes, the place is on fire." She ran up stairs with a bucket of water, and found him surrounded with blazing shavings, which he was trying to put out. She threw the water on him and ran down stairs, but in her agitation she never told the police or fire-brigade that her husband was in the burning room.

Rattening in Sheffield.—Another of these trade outrages, the frequent perpetration of which has given Sheffield so unenviable a notoriety, is reported. The *locale* is the London Works, Bridge-street, the property of Mr. Thomas Hague, fire-iron manufacturer. The victim is a knife grinder, named Thomas Chapman, who there rents power, entrance being effected to the premises either late on Saturday night or early on Sunday morning. The depredators had comparatively few difficulties to surmount. The works are skirted by the river, which at this particular place is very low, an easy crossing being thus afforded, and choosing a window which was in such a condition, and so situated that it aided in the accomplishment of the nefarious deed the party or parties, gained ingress, and once inside, had apparently made straight to the wheel rented by Chapman. Before it could have been reached others had to be passed, thus showing that Chapman, and he alone, was the offending workman. The property of no one else was interfered with. The rattener then proceeded to his work of spoliation. Two bands, each 15 feet in length were cut up into several pieces, and the stone was so interfered with, that it is rendered quite useless. The pieces of the bands were thrown into the river, along with a large number of sycthe blades which Chapman had been engaged to grind.

Suicide from the Clifton Suspension Bridge.—At about half-past ten o'clock on Saturday, George Simmons, a military recruit, stationed at the Gloucester Hotel Barracks, Clifton Hotwells, was crossing the Suspension Bridge and saw an elderly man, respectably attired in black and wearing a white neckcloth, leaning against and looking over the railing of one of the footpaths into the river below. The tide had been ebbing for some hours, and the water was therefore low. Almost immediately there was an alarm from below, and at the same time the man who had been seen there but a minute or so before had disappeared from the bridge. Four men who were working at the time in a barge moored on the Somersetshire bank of the river Avon, saw the man in the act of falling from the bridge. He fell into the water, and sank. They at once got him out, but he was quite dead. In the evening the body was identified as that of George Bates, who had been residing with his wife at Boyce's Cottage, Boyce's Buildings, Clifton. The unfortunate man, who was about 70 years of age, had lived for a great many years as butler in the service of a family named Session, and he was a steady, respectable man. At the time of his death he served a maiden lady, the survivor of that family, at her residence, No. 2, Royal-promenade, Victoria-square, Clifton. For the last twelve months or more he had been very unwell, and had been under medical treatment. He complained of internal pains, and suffered from fits of despondency. He had never, however, been known to meditate self-destruction. On the morning of his death he was sent to give an order to the wine merchant, which he did. Afterwards he must have gone to the Suspension Bridge, and committed the terrible act which terminated his life.

The Nawah Nazim in Birmingham.—His Royal Highness the Nawah Nazim of Bengal arrived at Birmingham on Monday, accompanied by Prince Ali Kudr, Prince Soliman Kudr, Mr. J. Haveland-Burke, M.P., Colonel F. P. Layard, Mr. W. D. Fox, Martin C. Fox, two Indian gentlemen, and a numerous suite. The distinguished party took apartments at the Great Western Hotel, where they have been staying during the week. The Nawab Nazim and party attended at the Theatre Royal on Monday, and saw Miss Bateman in her last representation of the character of "Leah." On Tuesday the royal party inspected the works of Messrs. Elkington and Co., and witnessed the processes of designing, moulding, stamping, engraving, embossing, and electro-plating. They afterwards visited Messrs. Osler's warehouse, the cutting shops and the glass works, where the whole process of smelting, blowing, and making up flint-glass articles was explained and illustrated. In the afternoon, under the conduct of the Mayor, they repaired to the grounds of Aston Park. After dining at the Great Western Hotel they attended the Prince of Wales Theatre, and witnessed the performance of "Little Em'ly." On Wednesday his Highness and party inspected the Small Arms Factory at Small Heath, and subsequently the Carriage Works at Saltley. In the evening the Mayor and Town Clerk had the honour of dining with his Highness at the Great Western Hotel. On Thursday, after visiting other works and places of interest, the distinguished Indian, his son and suit, left Birmingham for the North. His Highness expressed himself highly gratified with his visit to Birmingham, and was especially pleased with the accommodation and entertainment he experienced at the Great Western Hotel.

Highway Robbery in Derbyshire.—A daring case of highway robbery was investigated on Monday before the county magistrates at Derby. The particulars of the case are of a most singular character. On the evening of the 14th of September (the St. Leger day), Mr. Henry Dean, a respectable man, living at Burnaston, near Derby, was returning from the latter town to his home, when he called in at a public-house kept by John Brassington, in the village of Mickleover. At this time he had in his possession a considerable sum of money, viz., a cheque value £600, a sovereign, two half sovereigns, and 18s. in silver. After partaking of some ale he entered into a conversation about a pigeon match, during which Brassington (the publican) was present. In the conversation it was proposed that a match should be shot for money, but Dean would not agree to this, and expressed his intention of going home. Dean, before leaving the house, no doubt foolishly pulled out his pocket-book, which induced Brassington to follow him into the road. Here the prosecutor is unable to say what took place, but he appears to have taken the direction for home. A short time after, whilst walking along, he perceived something white on the road side, and this turned out to be a man. No sooner did he notice this than another man rushed up, threw him down, and took away his money. After the men had decamped, he turned back in the direction of Brassington's, and when near the house, strange to say, he overtook Brassington. He told him he had been robbed, and afterwards proceeded on to Derby to give information to the police. He saw Brassington the next day at his house and again told him that he had been robbed. To John Webster, who was in the house when Dean came in, Brassington is stated to have suggested that they should take Dean's money, as he had seen some in his possession; and when Webster replied that it would be best let alone, Brassington said they could give him some gin, make him drunk and then take the money. When Dean left the house no one remained but himself (Webster) and Brassington, who induced him to go into a lane with a view to rob Dean, and said, "As you are very fresh I will do the job." As soon as Dean came up Brassington pushed him down and took something from his pocket. Brassington and himself then went away in different directions, but returned to the house, when Brassington gave him 14s., stating that he had taken 28s. from Dean. On the next day Brassington told him he had taken a cheque for £600, which he advised him to destroy. Detective Davies, of the county constabulary, apprehended Brassington, who repudiated all knowledge of the robbery, and denied that he had been in the lane at all that night. On the other hand several respectable witnesses swore to seeing both himself and Webster in the vicinity of the robbery, and on the evidence Brassington was committed for trial at the next Derbyshire Assizes, bail being refused. A few weeks ago Brassington was fined £50 for a breach of the Excise laws.

LITERATURE.

Imaginary Conversations. By John Harris Scroxton. London: Elliot Stock, Paternoster-row.

This is a book of blank verse, made up of quite imaginary conversations between notabilities of the seventeenth century, including Milton, Cromwell, Charles I., Charles II., Laud, Drs. Owen, Goodwin, etc. It is dedicated to the people of Bromsgrove; and in the dedication the author very highly compliments—himself, which is unnecessary. There is a long preface that is quite uncalled for. It is merely a political (Radical) speech, and does not enlighten us as to what we may expect in the "Imaginary Conversations," which we presume is the chief subject of the book. "I have only written," he says, "as conscience dictated; and words, I believe, of truth and soberness. And the self-imposed task has been not simply a labour of love, but duty." The hero of the book is "Cromwell," and many things are said of him that have been said before. The theme is worn thread bare. The poetry in "Imaginary Conversations" (which, we believe, were published originally in *Once a Week*) is cold, flat, stale; it lacks fire and feeling; but there are some well constructed lines and passages that display talent.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Deaf and Dumb. Dr. Scott.

Handy Book on Property Law. Lord St. Leonards.

Bankruptcy Act, 1869. J. T. Treherne.

The Gentleman's Magazine for October.

Belgravia Magazine for October.

NEW MUSIC.

"Weary." E. L. Hine. London: Duff and Stewart.

When the composer penned this piece he nearly wrote something pretty. It begins quite nicely, but gradually becomes weaker and worse until it is almost unbearable. "Weary" is a well chosen title.

"God is Love." Sucht Champion. London: Duff and Stewart.

Here we have a sacred composition. It is one of the feeblest attempts at anything like music we have heard for a long while. At the same time the music is quite as good as the words if not better. The composer, by the bye, has written the poetry himself. It beginneth thus:—"Lonely, and patiently waiting, sits a widow at her casement. Why is her gaze so steadfast far o'er the broad blue waters? Her sole comfort in this world is now upon the sea; but as she waiting watches, yet is her heart not fearful," &c.

"Diamond Eyes." R. D'Oyley Carte. London: Duff and Stewart.

This is simply excruciating. We can detect not the slightest trace of anything original in either words or music.

"The Murmuring Stream." C. J. Hargitt. London: Duff and Stewart.

The words are from Goethe. It is written in two flats, and is easy to play. We do not like it.

"She's Good as She's Fair." Frank Mori. London: Duff and Stewart.

There is delicacy and "go" in "She's Good as She's Fair." The air runs along pleasantly, but it has faults. It might be altered and improved.

"The Joy that knows no Sorrow." Frank Mori. London: Duff and Stewart.

If this is at all like the joy that knows no sorrow, we hope we may be spared. One might almost imagine Artemus Ward had written the words. The music (by Frank Mori) is not so pretty as in "She's Good as She's Fair."

"When Friends are Met." J. B. Neiklot. London: S. Clarke.

The composer has done well in helping himself to good words. They are from Sir Walter Scott. The piece, too, which we believe to be a first attempt, is a very creditable performance. There is the spirit of the words in the music. We like it much.

NEW MUSIC RECEIVED.

"Angel of Peace." Anne Fricker. London: Cocks and Co.

"Echoes from the Highlands." W. S. Rockstro. London: Cocks and Co.

"Les Uhlans, Galop Brillant." By D. Brocca. London: Czerny and Co.

"Kitty M'Cree O'Tossell." Words by Edward Capern. Music by Charles E. Tinney. London: Czerny and Co.

"The German Rhineland." Poetry by W. V. Drury. Music by A. Buhl. London: Czerny and Co.

"One Love." Words by P. B. Marston. Music by Marietta. London: Czerney and Co.

A project has been started for presenting a testimonial to Mr. Besley, the Lord-Mayor of London, "in appreciation of the manner in which he stood up in defence of a principle at the time of his election as chief magistrate, and also of the way in which he has discharged his duties during his year of office."

THE FLIGHT OF FRENCH PEASANTRY.

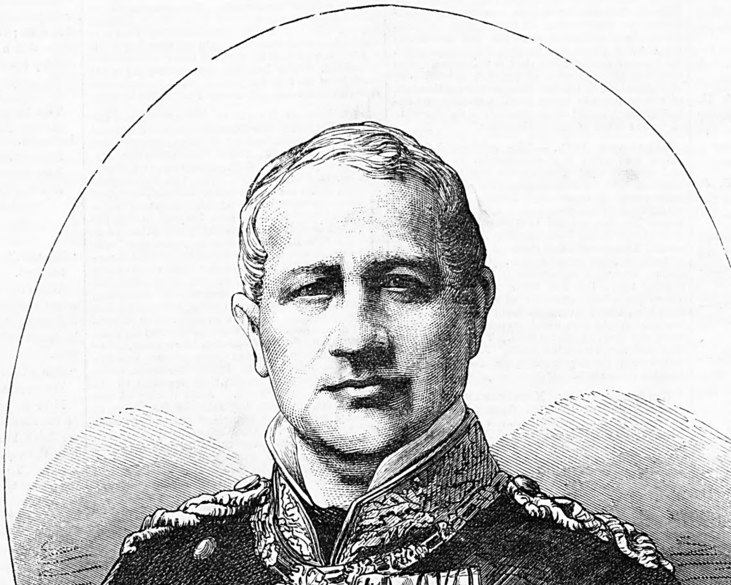
That is a sad "flitting" depicted in the engraving on the lower half of the opposite page. With no new home to repair to, those poor, industrious peasantry are seen fleeing in hot haste from their old homes, with as much of their household properties as they could scramble together when they heard that the enemy were drawing near. Those are the events of a few weeks ago, before Bazaine and his army got shut up in Metz, and these poor creatures fled into the great fortified town, where they have had to suffer untold miseries since. Of the scenes on the road during this flight of peasantry an eyewitness, a Frenchman speaks, thus:—"Never will be effaced from my memory the spectacle of these populations in flight, the sad scenes, the cries, the tears, the women lying exhausted by the road-side, children of four years old sleeping by the way, not able to go further, notwithstanding the entreaties of their parents. That which I have seen at the feet of these Vosges mountains, where a whole population seemed to be escaping in terror from the Prussian soldiery, is to me sadder even than the aspect of the field of battle." It is well that the world should know, as it has known this time, the actual facts of war. A thorough knowledge of all the miseries may have a tendency to render such things less likely to recur in the future.

CAPTIVE CANNON IN MUNICH.

Our two pictures on the opposite side pourtray the two sides of the drama of war, and they show at a glance the fortunes of the campaign. In the second, French peasantry are fleeing from the foe; in the first Bavarian citizens, with wild patriotic joy, are making a triumphant procession of the bringing into Munich of the two first French cannon captured by the soldiers of Bavaria. The victory was, undoubtedly, one for the people of that city to rejoice at; for Bavaria was the country more immediately threatened, at the outset of hostilities, with French invasion. The flight of the poor people at the foot of the Vosges means the safety of those of South Germany. These two cannon were taken from the French at Woerth, and were carried through Munich in the manner displayed in our engraving, on the 14th of August, two days before the first of the battles, so disastrous to Bazaine, before Metz. Our picture is from an excellent original drawing by R. A. Ekwall.

PRINCE ADALBERT.

Prince Adalbert, commander of the North German Navy, whose portrait occupies the centre of this page, was born on the 29th of October, 1811. He is a Prince of the House of Hohenzollern, and was made commander of the King's fleet as long ago as 1851. The Prussian navy is not remarkable for great deeds, and his Royal Highness is more distinguished as an intrepid and experienced traveller than as a naval officer. At the outset of this war he took such precautions as rendered the near approach of the French navy to German harbours a very dangerous experiment. In the Prussian fleet are six ironclads, of which the König Wilhelm, the Prince Friederich Karl, and the Kronprintz are fine vessels. The smallest of the steam ironclads is named Prinz Adalbert, after the subject of our portrait. The largest of the ironclads, the König Wilhelm, carries four 300-pounders, and twenty-three rifled 96-pounders, made of Krapp's hammered steel, and capable of being fired with 75lb. charges twice in a minute. In the fleet altogether are thirty-eight steam vessels with 320 guns, and seven sailing ships with 160 guns. In the summer of 1869 the Prussian navy was officered and manned by 4,888 men and boys.



PRINCE ADALBERT.

MALVERN.

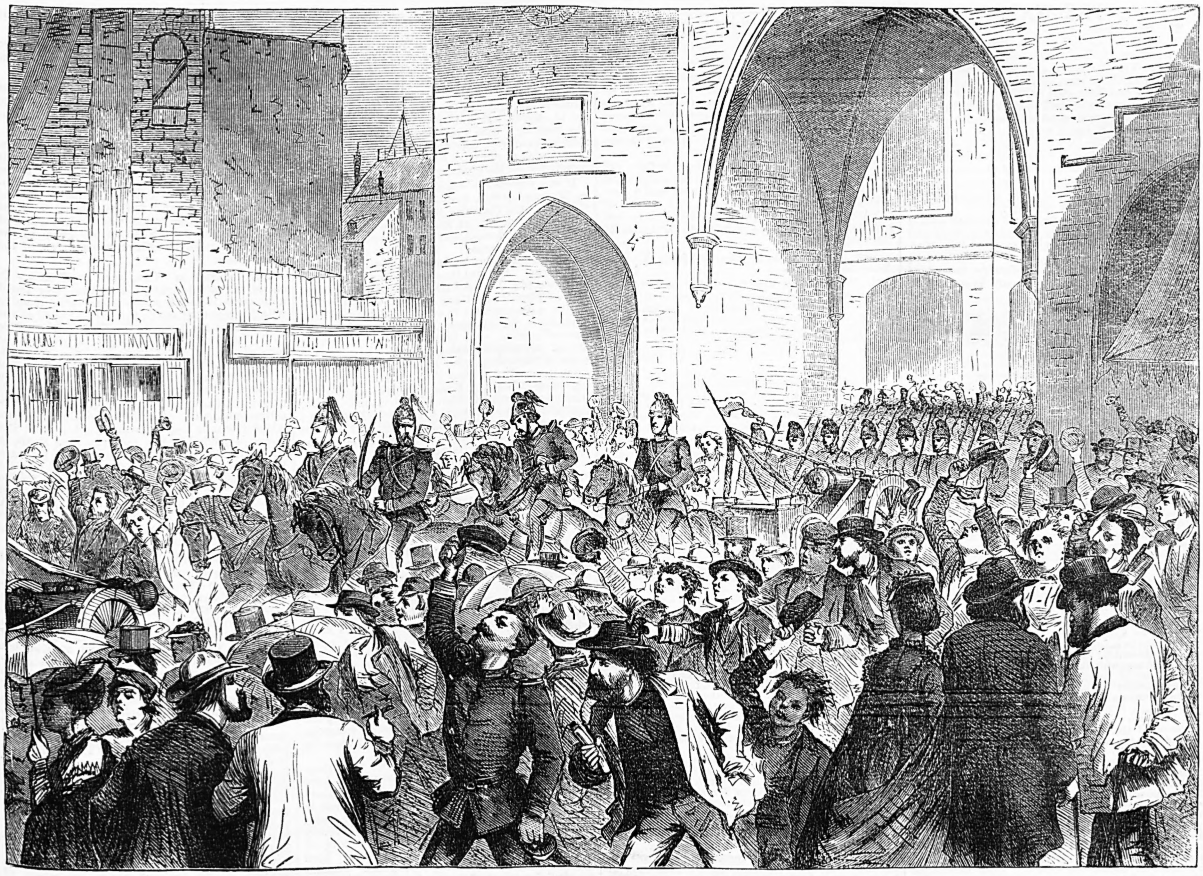
"Malvern" is a generic name including several species. There are the Malvern Hills, there are the Malvern Wells, both having a part in making the ill well. There are also the various Malvern towns—Great Malvern, Little Malvern, West Malvern, Malvern Wells, and Malvern Link. Most of these have already become topographically connected, and at the present rate of house-building it will soon be possible to pass from the one extremity of the Malverns to the other without knowing where one begins or another ends. Nevertheless, there will always be a marked variety among them. Their physical features will continue to differ when their boundaries have become obliterated. Malvern Link lies low in a plain. Great Malvern climbs up the hills, terrace on terrace. Moreover, West Malvern has quite a different outlook from any of the others. The stranger will be astonished when he visits West Malvern (he is almost sure to see it last of all) that *the* Malvern, the Malvern patronised by pleasure-takers and pleasure-seekers, should be placed upon the eastern side of the hills. There is no comparison between the views on the two sides. Ascending from Great Malvern, and looking down as you ascend, you are pleased well enough by the wide pastoral plain that lies at your feet, with here and there a glimpse of the silver Severn as it winds past Worcester with its distant cathedral tower, and Tewksbury with its noble abbey church, and you gaze over this great sweep of country until your vision is bounded by the straight terrace-like Cotteswold hills of Gloucestershire. But there is nothing to excite you to enthusiasm. It is an extensive view, interesting to the agriculturist, pleasing to the tourist, indifferent to the artist; a country of broad meadows and well-timbered hedge-rows, yet not in any sense of the word picturesque. But when you reach the crest of the Worcestershire Beacon, and turn your back upon the road you have just toiled up, you are startled by the change. You look down upon one of the loveliest scenes in all England. Wood and dell, park and pleasaunce, sombre tinted plantations of fir, brilliant hued groves of oak and chestnut and elm and walnut; no flat plain, but a boundless swell of hill and dale exquisitely curved; farms nestling on the hill side among the coppice mansions fronted by lawns and girt about by belts of grove; and in the far distance lofty hills, not flat and straight like the Cotteswolds, but broken into graceful lines of beauty—altogether a very earthly paradise, which verifies to the full the old couplet—

> Blest is the eye
> 'Twixt the Severn and the Wye.

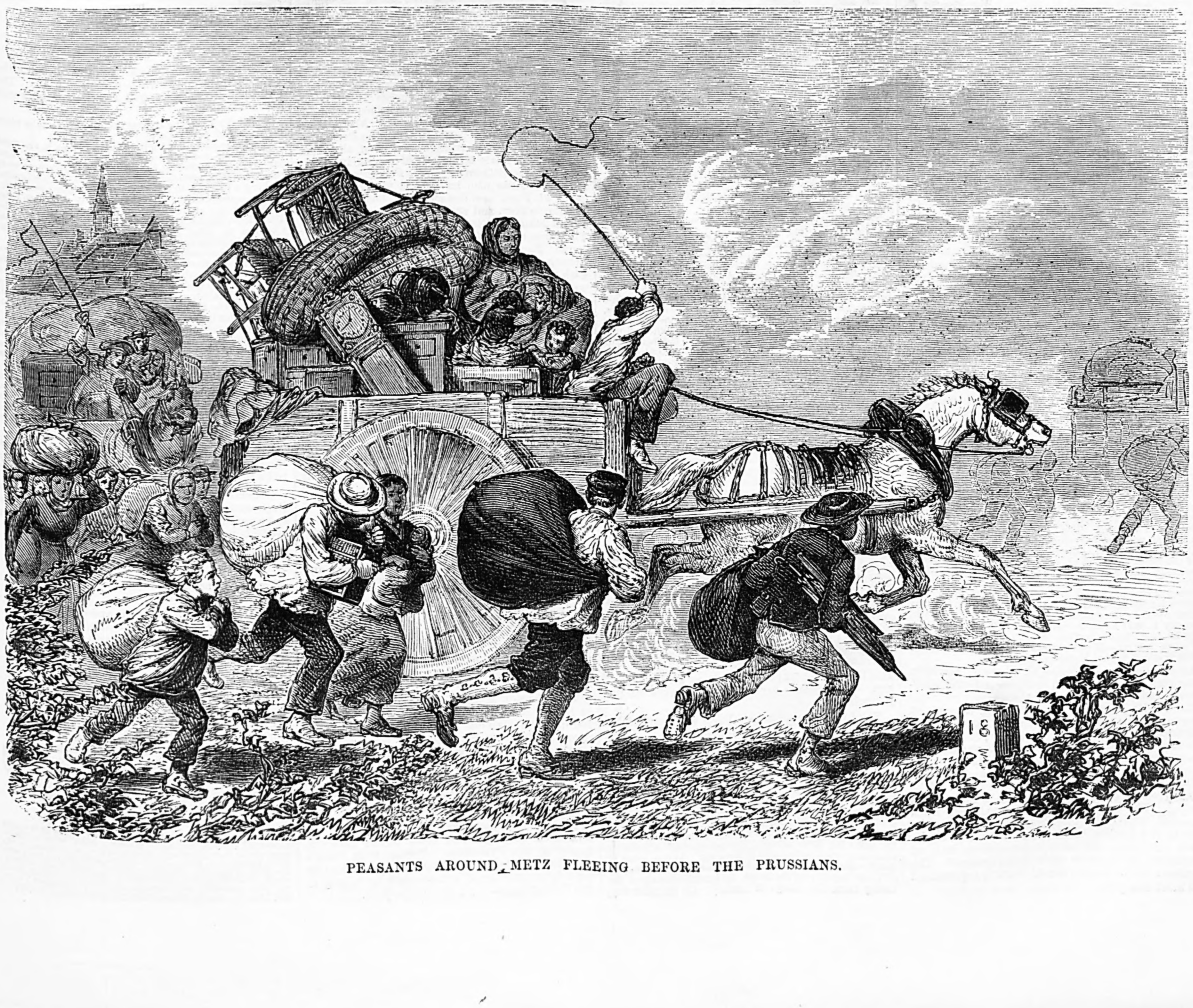
The difference in that which you see is not greater than the difference in that which you do not see. These two counties—this land of butter and meat on the one side, this land of corn and hops on the other—represent two different geologic epochs, two different stages in the world's history. The Malvern hills represent a third. They are a mass of igneous rock; but while they are devoid of life, they look down upon two different races separated from each other by myriads of years. On the west or Herefordshire side is a country of the old Red Sandstone and the Silurian series, full of the remains of zoophytes and mulluscs; on the east or Gloucestershire side is a country of Triassic and Oolitic formations, with relics of Saurians and other higher forms of life. There is greater difference here than there is between the age of the woad-dyed Briton with his spear and the age of the uniform-accoutred Englishman with his mitrailleuse.

One of the charms of Malvern town is that it is not a town. There is no high-street or Fore-street. Malvern is an encampment of villas. Shops there are, but they are wonderfully few considering the wealth, and therefore the numerous wants, of the inhabitants, both temporary and permanent. Even the shops do not often appear to be what they are. There is, for instance, a very imposing building which might be an abbey or a town hall, but which turns out to be the business premises of a firm of silk-mercers. It may be that the absence of a regular street of ordidary shops, like Milsom-street at Bath and the Promenade at Cheltenham, is not wholly to the advantage of Malvern. You cannot be bathing or donkey-riding all day. Perhaps if the sex which has "nothing to wear" had more abundant opportunity for inspecting the raiment with which it means to adorn itself, it would not be compelled to make such frequent visits to the not very lively city of Worcester. As for the villas, they are a marvel to see. There can scarcely be two alike of all the hundreds that flank the hill from the railway Station to St. Ann's Well. A young architect who intends to devote himself to villa-building should make a pilgrimage to Malvern, just as our juvenile Scotts and Streets visit Normandy. "Variety is charming,"—particularly so in this town of multiform many-coloured houses. Ecclesiastical architects even will find something to interest them. Of the modern churches there is little to say; but the Abbey Church, so charmingly situated, is worth a visit. A small portion of it is Norman, but the greater part is late pointed. Henry VII. was so pleased with Malvern that he adorned the Abbey with five painted windows. Little Malvern Church is even more picturesquely situated than the Abbey. It stands close to the grounds of Little Malvern Court. Newland Church has become one of the favourite resorts of Ritualists; for under the incumbency of Mr. Skinner (whose bearded face is seen in every photographer's window) and the patronage of Earl Beauchamp, the services at Newland are of the high ceremonial type, though of the milder Pimlico rather than of the extreme St. Alban's usage. The Malverns boast their college now, and hope to compete some day with their neighbour Cheltenham. But their building of buildings is the Imperial hotel. We no longer erect baronial castles or princely palaces, the joint-stock hotel is the modern substitute for them. And a very creditable substitute it is. At Malvern there is a *salle-à-manger* which would compare with any banqueting-hall in the land, whether of Norman or Tudor date. It is really a magnificent room. For the subterranean passage of old time there is the "covered way" connecting the hotel and the railway station. Other buildings less imposing, but conspicuously big, stand on the hill side. They are the far-famed hydropathic establishments, conducted by physicians who though they believe with Pindar that "water is the best thing," do not repudiate other remedies. Water is the sovereign remedy—the west country *elixir vitæ*—best of all Worcestershire sauce. The sated *bon vivant*, the jaded lawyer or man of letters, the worn out girl of the season, find in Malvern waters new appetite, new brains, new roses. The regimen is strict, no doubt. To be restricted to mutton, when you have been used to a dozen courses; to be forbidden mental exertion, when you have been reading briefs and writing leaders ten or twelve hours a day; to be sent to bed at nine, the hour when your were dressing for the ball, and to get up at six, the hour when you were coming back from the ball, may be a little trying at first; so, too, are the wet sheet and the douche-bath. But you soon get used to the system, and as it becomes associated in your mind with the idea of returning health you speedily learn to like it.—*The Globe.*

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.—In May, the Central Pacific division of the Pacific Railway acquired 761,285 dollars, and the Union Pacific division, 746,450 dollars, making an aggregate of 1,507,735 dollars. The corresponding receipts of May, 1869, were 1,307,856 dollars. It will be seen that the earnings of the great road are now rolling on at the rate of 18,000,000 dollars, or £3,600,000 sterling per annum. In other words, the Pacific Railroad is earning £70,000 per week, although it has attained at present a very early stage of its career. The cost of operating so long and lonely a road must be very considerable, but we must wait yet awhile before we can afford precise details as to the ratio of the working expenses to the traffic receipts.



SCENE IN THE STREETS OF MUNICH: THE FIRST FRENCH CANNON CAPTURED BY BAVARIAN SOLDIERS.



PEASANTS AROUND METZ FLEEING BEFORE THE PRUSSIANS.

THE WAR.

The break down of the negotiations for peace and the absolute isolation of Paris from the rest of the world are the leading features of the week's history. The Emperor, in his proclamation to the army of the Rhine, expressed his belief that this would be a long war, but the promise of long continuance never seemed so great as now. It is impossible to foresee what may happen to put an end to hostilities, but if we may judge from the probabilities of the position, we shall at least find ourselves in the spring before the realization of peace. The first intimation of the failure of M. Jules Favre's attempt to make terms with the Count Von Bismarck came in this form from Rouen, dated Saturday evening:—

Prussia wants Alsace and Lorraine, and will consent to an armistice on reduction of Strasburg, Toul, and Mont Valerien. The answer of France is—"To arms. War till extermination."

This was followed by the following important proclamation to the people of France from Tours:—

The Government to the Prefects, Under Prefects, Governor General of Algeria, and Generals of Division and Sub-divisions. Before the investment of Paris M. Jules Favre, Minister of Foreign affairs, wished to see M. de Bismarck, to know the dispositions of the enemy. They are as follows:—Prussia wishes to continue the war, and reduce France to a second-rate power. Prussia demands Alsace and Lorraine as far as Metz by the right of conquest. Prussia, to consent to an armistice, has dared to demand the surrender of Toul, Strasburg, and Mont Valerien. Paris exasperated will rather bury herself under her ruins. To these insolent pretensions, in a word, France has replied only by war to the knife. France accepts the struggle and reckons on all her children. Tours, Sept. 24, 1870. The members delegate of the Government. Cremieux, Glas-Bizoin, Fourichon.

In consequence of the above, which constitutes a gravity of circumstance, the Government decrees:—1st. All municipal elections, and for the Constituent Assembly, are suspended and annulled. 2nd. All municipal elections which have been made are annulled. 3rd. The prefects will be provided by the maintenance of existing municipalities or provisional municipalities. The members delegate of the Government, Cremieux, Glais-Bizoin, Fourichon.

The German official version of the end of the negotiations, and their explanations on disputed points, were as follows:—

Ferrieres, Sept. 23, 3-40 p.m.—M. Jules Favre left yesterday for Paris with the following conditions for an armistice to be granted for the convocation of the Constituent Assembly. The surrender of Toul, Verdun, and Strasburg, with the view of securing an uninterrupted line of communication for provisioning the German armies during the suspension of hostilities. These conditions M. Favre has declined.

Ferrieres, Sept. 24, 1-4 p.m.—A categorical denial has been given by Count Bismarck to the misrepresentation of the German conditions for an armistice published in the news from Tours. He denies that he insisted upon the surrender of either Mont Valerein or Metz. Toul, Verdun, and Strasburg were alone demanded. The outworks of the latter fortress being already in the possession of the German troops, a breach having been opened, its fall was considered as a mere question of days. Toul has since surrendered. Verdun is of no military importance, but would during a suspension of hostilities have been necessary for provisioning the German troops before Paris by direct communication with Germany. The Chancellor thinks, therefore, those conditions to have been more than moderate in comparison with the great advantages France would have derived from an armistice, both for her political organisation and for her new armaments.

Berlin, Sept. 25, 4 p.m.—The interviews between Count Bismarck and M. Jules Favre took place on the 19th and 20th inst. The conditions offered by Count Bismarck were rejected by the Paris Government on the 23rd. No such demand was made as that Mount Valerien should be delivered into the hands of the Germans.

The universal feeling in France appears to be that peace is impossible, and there is by common consent a sinking of political differences, and a determination to fight the battle of the country as one man. The proclamation of the Government delegation had an inspiriting influence upon the population. The people everywhere have called for arms. The communications with Paris having been entirely stopped, the only intelligence from within the city has been obtained by means of balloons. On Friday a balloon bringing dispatches, and which left Paris on the 23rd, arrived at Evereux at 11 a.m. the same day. The conditions demanded by Prussia, it appeared, had caused extreme irritation at Paris. The city was completely surrounded by Prussians, at a distance of 2,000 to 3,000 yards from the outlying forts. The attitude of the French population was very determined; no person was allowed in the streets after ten p.m. without special permission. On Sunday, official news from Paris, dated the 20th, 21st, and 22nd, reached Tours by another balloon, which fell near Evreux. In it was a French official account of the battle which occurred on the 19th inst. The dispatch was from M. Gambetta, who announced that on the morning of the 19th General Ducrot, who occupied the heights of Villejuif with four divisions, extended his lines to the heights of Meudon, and made an offensive reconnaissance forward. M. Gambetta says:—

His troops encountered imposing masses of the enemy spread through the woods and villages, and supported by a great deal of artillery. After rather a sharp engagement General Ducrot's forces had to fall back. The right wing effected this movement with deplorable precipitation, but the remainder concentrated in good order round the earthen redoubt erected on the plateau of Chatillon. The left wing held its position on the heights of Villejuif. The fire of the enemy's artillery assumed great proportions towards four o'clock, and Ducrot was obliged to draw back his forces under cover of the forts. He spiked eight guns at the Chatillon redoubt, and retired to Fort Vanves. Our artillery showed great power, and the Garde Mobile gave evidence of steadiness and calmness. Orders have been given for the troops to concentrate definitively in Paris. Our losses do not appear to be considerable, while the enemy is said to have suffered heavily, and has not made any demonstration against the forts.. The French batteries fired upwards of 25,000 shots to-day. The Garde National Mobile behaved well.

An order of the day issued by General Trochu on the 20th says the French artillery inflicted enormous losses on the enemy. He severely reproves the 1st Regiment of Zouaves, who, through an incomprehensible panic, retreated in disorder, spreading alarm and compromising the success of the movement. He orders energetic and rigorous measures to be adopted towards these undisciplined and demoralised soldiers, and subjects them to the consequences of military law. The Government at Paris had issued a note which says:—"We have wished to stop this barbarous conflict, which is decimating two nations to the profit of a few ambitious men. We accept equitable conditions, but we will not cede an inch of territory, or a stone of our fortresses." The attitude of the population of Paris is represented as most energetic.

It was reported from Marseilles on Saturday that the populace had committed great havoc on the estate of General Reille, the aide-de-camp of the Emperor Napoleon, who was chiefly active in the capitulation of Sedan.

On Friday, according to German official accounts, the garrison of Toul surrendered as prisoners of war on the same terms as those granted to the French army at the capitulation of Sedan. The following officers, men, arms, and and munitions of war, &c., were captured at the capitulation of Toul: 109 officers, 2240 men, 120 horses, one eagle of the Guard Mobile, 197 bronze guns, including 48 pieces of rifled ordnance, 3000 rifles, 3000 sabres, 500 cuirasses, and a considerable quantity of munitions and articles of equipment. Soldiers' pay for 143,025 days and rations for 51,940 days also fell into the hands of the Prussians.

The following is a telegram from Vienna, dated Saturday:—

M. Thiers arrived here last night. His object to induce Austria and Russia to intervene in favour of France is unattainable. Count Beust persists in declining all interference as long as neutral Powers remain unwilling to act collectively. M. Thiers leaves for St. Petersburgh to-morrow.

The following telegram from Berlin bears date Saturday:—

The total number of German troops on French territory is 650,000, consisting of 21 army corps, composed almost wholly of troops of the line, with very few of the Landwehr. There are three other army corps under arms which have not left Germany.

No comment is necessary upon the following items culled from German despatches of Sunday and Monday's date:—

Ferrieres, Sept.—With the exception of a few unimportant outpost skirmishes before Paris nothing new has occurred.

Versailles, Sept. 25.—The Third Army has taken up its position before Paris. Nothing serious has been attempted by the enemy. Three gunboats have appeared upon the Seine. Everywhere entrenchments and barricades are observable.

Prussian Head-Quarters, Ferrieres, Sept. 26.—Every preparation is being made for a prolonged stay at the Royal Head-Quarters in this place. Three telegraph lines have been erected here to keep up communication between the German armies. M. Jules Favre during his stay here conferred only with Count Bismarck, and not with Count Moltke at all.

Before Metz, Sept. 26.—Nothing is known here of any offer to capitulate on the part of Marshal Bazaine.

Berlin, Sept. 26, 9 p.m.—According to advices from the German army before Metz, a Prussian officer, who had a parley with Marshal Bazaine a few days ago with the object of putting an end to the practice of firing upon outposts, was informed by the Marshal that he sought to preserve the fortress and the army under his command for the service of the Emperor Napoleon, and that he had nothing to do with the Republic established in Paris.

Dresden, Sept. 25.—Thousands of prisoners are passing through here on their way to Silesia. Many of them belonged to MacMahon's army, and are loud in their expressions of contempt for Napoleon and the surrender of Sedan. The popular feeling in Saxony is in favour of the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine.

The following telegram is from Amiens, Sunday night:—

The Prefect of the Department of the Somme has issued an address to the inhabitants, stating that, all hopes of peace having disappeared, there remains but one duty for Frenchmen—namely, "war to the knife." All men must rise and chase the enemy who pollutes the soil of France, and wishes to dismember her. A general rising, and valour equal to that displayed in 1792, can alone save the country. The address concludes:—"Arise, citizens; enrol yourselves under the flag of the Republic, and show Prussia that she will find a tomb where she hoped to complete the abasement and ruin of France."

From Havre on the same day came this intelligence:—

The Municipal Council of Havre, indignant at the demands of the Prussians, voted this evening that a call should be made for the enrolment of Volunteers, who would be armed and equiped by the municipality, which would also take care of their families, for which purpose a loan of 1,000,000f. was to be raised. Great enthusiasm prevails, and a determination to drive out the enemy or perish.

On Tuesday was published, at Tours, M. Favre's report on the peace negotiations, from which we make extracts:—

M. Jules Favre goes on to say: "Count Bismarck maintained that the French nation had had a fixed intention to attack Germany. To my observations combating his assertions, and explaining the causes of the war, and pressing him to state exactly his conditions of peace, M. de Bismarck replied distinctly, that the security of his country compelled him to keep territory which would be a guarantee of safety; and he declared that the departments of the Upper and Lower Rhine, of the Moselle, with Metz, Chateau Salins, and Soissons, were indispensable, and that he could not relinquish them. To the objections that the consent of the people of whom he disposed was more than doubtful, and that the public law of Europe would not permit him to act without that, M. de Bismarck replied that he was aware of this, but said, 'As we shall shortly have another war with you, we intend to enter upon it in possession of all our advantages.'"

At the second interview, on the evening of the 19th, at Ferrières, M. de Bismarck appeared to allow himself to be persuaded about an armistice which I asked should be for fifteen days; and on the following day at 11 a.m. he sent me the following conditions, namely, the occupation of Strasburg, Toul, and Phlasburg; and as I had told him that the Assembly would meet in Paris, he desired in that case to have the forts commanding the capital—Mont Valérien, for instance. I objected to this, that it would have been more simple to have asked for Paris at once. M. de Bismarck replied, "Let us seek some other combination." I spoke to him of the Constituent Assembly meeting at Tours, in which case no guarantee against Paris should be required. M. de Bismarck further demanded that the garrison of Strasburg should surrender as prisoners of war. Having expressed my indignation at this proposal, M. de Bismarck went to consult the King, who accepted the second combination, but insisted that the garrison of Strasburg should give themselves up as prisoners of war. My powers were now exhausted; I rose and took my leave, expressing to him my conviction that we should fight as long as we could find in Paris an element of resistance.

The Prussians occupied Orleans on Friday morning. On the same day M. Thiers arrived at St. Petersburg.

The following news from Paris was received by carrier pigeon at Lille on Monday:

Yesterday, the 23rd, General Mandlay's division attacked the heights of the plateau of Villejuif, which were occupied by the Prussians. The fighting commenced at three a.m., and after a well-sustained fire, lasting several hours, our field batteries, supported by the fire from the forts, completely carried the redoubt of Haute Bruyère. They maintained the conquered positions, and still occupy them. The enemy suffered considerably. The Garde Mobile behaved well. On the same day Rear-Admiral Saisset effected a brilliant reconnaissance on the side of Bourget. At the head of 200 Fusiliers, 400 Marine Infantry, and eight companies of Light Cavalry of the Seine, he quickly dislodged the enemy from the village of Drancy. On the same day, again, General Billanon ordered an attack on the village of Pierrefitte, and the enemy, though in considerable force, was driven out after rather a sharp fight; our troops effecting their return to St. Denis without being disturbed by the enemy.

The young men between the ages of 16 and 20 are forming a French legion to replace the Garde Nationale should that body be mobilised. Five hundred and fifty-one Garibaldians, among whom are 15 officers, left Marseilles for Tours on Monday evening. The Southern League has published a manifesto which concludes thus:—"We do not wish to diminish the action of the central power, but on the contrary to aid it."

It was reported in somewhat doubtful language on Wednesday that Strasburg had fallen to the besiegers. On Thursday the news was confirmed.

The capitulation of Strasburg was concluded with Lieut.-Colonel Leczynski at two o'clock on Wednesday morning. 451 officers and 17,000 men, including the National Guard, laid down their arms. At eight the same morning the gates were occupied by the Prussians. By the subjection of Strasbourg there will be, it is stated at Berlin, a considerable force at the disposal of the authorities for clearing Upper Alsace of the Franc-Tireurs. All Germany, says a Berlin official newspaper, welcomes most heartily the town of Strasburg, now won back to her. The same journal says that Alsace-Lorraine is to be placed as a German Federal Province under the immediate administration of Federal authorities, and will be represented in the German Parliament by a commission. The inhabitants will not for the present be subject to military burdens borne by the remainder of Germany.

Paris letters have for the present ceased to appear in the London papers, but perhaps they will arrive presently by means of balloons. The *Times* has already received a despatch by that mode of transit. It was dated Paris, September 22, 2 o'clock, and signed "M. Nadar." The writer begins by referring to an act of courtesy shown him by the *Times* in 1863. "After an interval of seven years, he proceeds, "I seize as an opportunity for thanking you for this, the occasion of the departure of the first balloon which I send away charged with despatches for the service of our Republic. I do not know from whence this letter will come to you, but I know that it ought to reach you." The writer refers to the great change which has passed over Paris "in presence of the supreme danger." The city of pleasure, of noise, "has become grave and silent." He insists that Prussia ought now to be regarded as the aggressor, "having rejected with disdain the proposals of peace presented by the French Government." M. Nadar is sanguine that, now France has right on her side, success will even yet attend her arms.

As a set off against the statement that there are 650,000 German soldiers in France we have the declaration of the *Union Nationale* of Montpelier that the total number of enrolments in France amount to nearly a million. The *Salut* of Lyons says the armament of its port is nearly completed, and the city placed in a state of formidable defence. Earthworks have been erected to check the enemy's progress. The defence of Langres will be persisted in. The town is provisioned for three months. In case the enemy contemplate attacking Marseilles, the defence will be made in the straight defiles of the Rhone, between Lyons and Valence. A tunnel is also being constructed to prevent the enemy destroying the railroad communication in the defiles. The peasants and the troops are prepared for an heroic resistance. The organisation of the Garde Mobile, however, progresses slowly. At Lille, on Tuesday, orders were issued to apprehend as deserters all Mobiles not answering the call within three days. Mauberge is being put in a state of defence, the fortifications repaired, and earthworks are being erected. At Cambrai 5,000 people are prepared to fight the Prussians.

The following remarkable account of the state of things in Paris is an offcial report from the German Head-Quarters at Ferrieres:—"The Mobile Guards who have been pressed into the army at Paris are deserting in bodies of from twenty to fifty, and are returning to their homes. About 200 of them have been shot for disobedience. The former inhabitants of the abandoned villages round Paris, who were driven thence by the French soldiery, are now gradually returning with the property which they had taken away with them."

From Namur it was reported on Tuesday that a German corps, over 50,000 strong, was marching on Lyons. It consisted of Bavarian and Prussian troops. The *Gazette* of Cologne publishes a report of an interview of a German *parlementaire* with Marshal Bazaine, who seems to have expressed the intention of remaining faithful to the Emperor, together with his army, and not to acknowledge the Republic. Along with the news of the fall of Strasburg came a report that Montmedy was taken.

WAR ITEMS.

Public meetings are entirely prohibited at Konigsberg, at the instance of the military governor; and the Saxon authorities have forbidden all gatherings of the Democratic Socialists in Saxony.

The Chamber of Commerce of North Germany has been asked by the Government to state what influence it expects the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine will have upon the industry of the States of the Zollverein.

All the deputies of the Republican party in the Cortes at Madrid have signed a manifesto drawn up by Senor Castelar, which advocates the establishment of an Ibernian Republic, occupying its proper place in a free Europe. This manifesto appeared on Sunday. General Orense left for France, to organise a Spanish legion.

The French Exodus.—The Exodus of French to Jersey continues with little abatement, about 500 persons arriving on the Island by the last three packets for St. Malo and Granville, upwards of 400 coming from the latter port on Thursday and Monday. All the refugees appear to be of the wealthier class, no working men being amongst them. The packet for Granville on Monday, in addition to the large number of passengers, brought over 13 stallions, a portion of the stud of a large breeder at Caen, who has sent them over to avoid them falling into the hands of the Prussians. Persons from France have been in the Island securing accommodation for a large number of horses—said to belong to the Government—for a similar purpose.

A house has been taken at Wiesbaden for the reception of Marshall MacMahon.

The garrisons in Lithuania and the kingdom of Poland have been strengthened, owing to the sympathy manifested by the Poles for France.

The raising of the blockade in the Baltic has enabled a great number of German ships to leave Cronstadt, thereby largely benefiting the Russian export trade.

The Order of St. George, which has just been sent by the Czar to the Crown Princes of Prussia and Saxony and Prince Louis of Hesse, is the highest honour that is conferred in Russia. There are only two Knights of the Order—the King of Prussia and the Archduke Albert of Austria. The Czar himself has only a Cross of the fourth class, while the crosses given to the Crown Princes of Prussia and Saxony are of the second class.

The Poetry of War, and its Prose.—In one of the recent fights, a Prussian jäger found a moment to pluck a rose; and after coming with his regiment out of the toil and peril of the day, he sent the flower to the Central Committee in Berlin, asking that it might be given to the lady who had done most to help the wounded. The rose and the letter have been received, and very elegantly framed for preservation, by Queen Augusta.—The "War Sausage Manufactory," near the Lutzower Platz, in Berlin, is an interesting enterprise. Six weeks ago the ground on which it stands was a barren stubble-field; but now it is covered by five immense long sheds, in which during the last three weeks 60,000 sausages have been made daily, which, composed of peas and salt meat, afford a strengthening diet for the soldiers. Ten tons of ham and bacon are worked up daily, with twenty tons of peameal. A thousand workmen are constantly employed, and 180 women and children have enough to do to tie the ends of the sausages.

Schleswig.—The following news from Kiel is given as evidence of the influence of the war on Schleswig:—The Municipal Council of Hadersleben have sent an address to the King of Prussia to remove, on the occasion of the German victories, the ban which weighs upon North Schleswig, in virtue of the 5th paragraph of the Treaty of Prague. The Municipal Council of Kiel has resolved to present a memorial to the King, expressing a hope that the success of the German arms will lead to the abrogation of the clause of the treaty of Prague which stipulates the cession of a portion of North Schleswig to Denmark. The memorialists declare that the territory therein alluded to has always been an integral part of Schleswig, and add, "The Schleswig-Holsteiners have never wished to separate their destines from those of their northern brethren, and have always deplored the stipulation for the retrocession of the northern districts on account of the impossibility of fixing upon a line of demarcation which should be consistent with ideas of justice and offer guarantees for a permanent settlement." In conclusion, the memorialists trust to the wisdom of his Majesty to take advantage of the moment when the whole of Germany is united in order to protect the western frontier and its inhabitants by victoriously achieving a permanent peace, and thus restoring that longed-for state of things to the North of Germany.

ROME.

The occupation of Rome by the forces of the King of Italy was accomplished last week. The following are the principal items of intelligence this week:—

The plebiscite in the Roman provinces is to take place on the 2nd of next month.

The losses sustained by the Italian troops in the fight before Rome were 22 killed, including 3 officers, and 117 wounded, including 5 officers. 9,300 prisoners were taken, namely, 4 800 native troops, and 4,500 foreigners, making a total of 10,700 with those taken previously. In consequence of the disturbances in the Leonine City, caused by the attitude of the population towards the Pontifical gensdarmes, the Pope has requested General Cadorna to send troops thither to maintain order. General Cadorna complied with this request.

General Cadorna, in opening the Provisional Government at Rome, on Saturday, said:—"You are called to fulfil a sublime task. The 20th of September marks a great epoch in your mission, and inaugurates a new era in Italian unity, which, when finally completed, will constitute Rome again the capital of the Kingdom. God manifestly blesses Italy."

The promenade of the Corso and the Pincian Hill was, on Sunday, enormously crowded. Thousands collected round the bands to hear the military music. The Pope having expressed a desire to take a drive, the Cardinals observed that it was too soon to do so at present. Cardinal Patrizi openly expressed the opinion that he never saw more religious troops than the Italians. Rome is governed by the Communal Council. Both foreigners and Romans are struck by the fact that the transition to the new system occurred with so little disturbance of order.

The Roman Junta decided on Tuesday that the formula of the plebiscitum which is shortly to be taken shall be, "Italy one and indivisable."

General Cadorna has ordered that when the Pope wishes to promenade the city, honours are to be paid to him as to a King, and the Cardinals are to be treated as princes of the blood.

SONNET.

From the French of Ponthus de Tyard. Born, 1521; died, 1605.

Mortier of rest! of dreams and deep repose,
  Night hath o'er canopied with gloomy shade
The damp sweet air; descend and gently close
  The weary eyes that day has restless made.
Draw near, O sleep, thine absence lingers out
  My pain and makes it heavier still to bear;
O come and lull it, cheat, hang about
  Its hard reality some fiction fair.
Lo! silence brings a train of phantoms sable,
  I see them moving through the courts of air,
Deign to draw near! are no entreaties able
  To beg the boon so many freely share?
Draw near, O sleep! my weary couch o'er spread
With nightside—and with poppies wreath my
    head.

St. Germain.

"Three years ago this autumn I had a severe attack of the gout to which I had been subject for 22 years. After being confined to my room, under treatment, two weeks, I was induced to try Perry Davis's Pain Killer, and in a little more than a week was able to be at business. Two years before I had a similar attack, which, with the best medical advice I could get, confined me to my house more than four months.—Yours, &c., Thomas Perry, Red Lion Sq., *Nov.* 10, 1868.—To Perry Davis & Sons, London."

GOSSIP.

Herr R. Hamerling has written a new drama.

Fun has just changed hands. Tom Hood is still the editor.

M. Svoboda, the historical painter, has died at Vienna.

The *Musical Standard* says that Vieuxtemps is going to America.

The title of Offenbach's latest production is "The Divorce of Figaro."

Mr. Alexandre Billet, the well-known pianist, has arrived in London.

A new Irish comic paper called *Blarney* has made its appearance.

Professor Oliver W. Holmes is said to be engaged on a new volume of essays.

Miss Cleveland (Mrs. C. Vincent) is announced to appear in Bristol "in East Lynne."

The new Theatre in the Strand, called the Opera Comique, will be opened in October.

Madame Arabella Goddard returned to Boulogne-sur-Mer after the Birmingham Festival.

Mr. Alfred Nicholson, the celebrated oboe player, died lately at Leicesterr, at the age of 48.

A street in Boston (United States) has just been named after the great composer, Beethoven.

Dr. K. A. Von Steinheil, the celebrated German telegraphist, died at Munich on the 14th ult.

An Italian version of M. Louis Jacolliot's work, "Le Bible dans l'Inde," has been published by Signor Politti.

It is rumoured in New York that Jenny Lind (Madame Goldschmidt) is to give concerts in the United States.

Mr. H. E. Moltzer has published at Groningen the second part of his "Middle Netherlandish Dramatic Poetry."

"Seedtime and Harvest" is the title of a novel, by a new lady writer, which will be published during the autumn.

A new edition of Mr. John Hosack's ingenious book, "Mary, Queen of Scots, and her Accusers," is nearly ready.

The youthful Signor Ettore Mariotti has finished an opera, entitled Fedra, which is shortly to be brought out in Venice.

Day's Doings announce that the widow of Mr. R. Brough is performing on the stage under the name of Miss Romer.

"Twixt Axe and Crown" has been enthusiastically received in New York. Mrs. Scott Siddons plays the "Princess Elizabeth."

Dr. Tregelles's Greek Testament, complete to the end of St. Jude's Epistle, will appear in one volume on the 1st of October.

We are informed (says the *Musical Standard*) that Mdlle. Nilsson is to receive the sum of £25,000 for six months' singing in America.

The author of "Legendary Fictions of the Irish Celts" has a new work in the press to be entitled "The Fireside Stories of Ireland."

The *Musical Standard* says that Strauss, the dance music writer, receives a salary of £2,500 for conducting twelve concerts at Baden-Baden.

A new monthly periodical has been brought out in Russia, under the editorship of V. Semievski, entitled *Ruskaia Starina*, or "Russian Antiquity."

Miss Armytage, who was mixed up in the Hull convent case, Saurin *v.* Starr, has been fulfilling an engagement at a Music Hall at Nottingham.

A new journal, called the *Federalist*, has made its appearance in Dublin. It advocates the new theory of Home Government and a Federal Parliament.

The copyright for England of the last successful opera of M. de Flotow, "L'Ombre," has been purchased by Mr. Jefferys, of Berners-street, London.

An account of the pilgrimage to Mecca made in 1864 by the late Nawab Sikandar, Begum of Bhopal, is about to be published by Messrs. Allen.—*Athenæum.*

Mr. Barry Sullivan's performance at Cork (says *The Era*) has been the most successful ever known in that city; hundreds have been unable to obtain admission.

Signor Antonio Grimaldi has published at Sassari a short but interesting paper of observations on the "Decomposizione dell' acido silicico per mezzo delle foglie e della luce solare."

Fräulein Lewinsky, who sang at the Drury-lane Italian Opera House last season, is engaged for St. Petersburg, and will make her *début* as *Marguerite* in Gounod's "Faust."—*Athenæum.*

A short but interesting paper of "Observations on the Electric Resonance of Mountains," by Henri de Saussure, appears translated in the last Report of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. S. G. Burmeister, the Director of the Museum of Natural History at Buenos Ayres, has narrowly escaped being killed by one of his servants, who attempted to avenge a supposed wrong.

Madame Adelina Patti, who has not left England since the close of the Italian Opera season, will sing at the concerts at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, on the 30th inst. and the 1st of October.

It is stated that Sir William Muir has declared himself against the introduction of Sir William Jones's spelling in the Indian Gazetteer, and that there is to be further official discussion before final orders are issued.

The Council of the Royal Archæological Institute have just accepted the invitation of the Corporation of Cardiff to hold the Annual Meeting for 1871 in that town. The Marquis of Bute will preside on the occasion.

The announcement of a new novel by Lord Lytton (says the *Athenæum*) has excited a great demand for early sheets among American and, curiously enough, also among Dutch publishers. One American house is said to have offered £500 for them.

The *Musical Standard*, in reviewing a piece of music entitled "In Dreams Alone," says:—'We were young and foolish, she and I,' and they set about making music which, to our thinking, was rather an unnecessary labour to judge by this effusion.

An Italian newspaper, the *Eco d' Italia*, published twice a week in New York, represents the Italian periodical press in America, and publishes in its appendices the novel "Clelia," written by General Garibaldi, and "Gli Scolari di Pisa," by Signor T. Gherardi del Testa. The editor is Cavaliere G. F. Secchi di Casale.—*Athenæum.*

The *Durham County Advertiser* has an interesting article on "The Invasion of London." The editor says "Perfidious Albion" has open arms for all comers, and "the stranger and oppressed" can never say that he is not well and graciously received. Even those tall well-built Frenchmen, who after crying *Vive la Guerre!* have left Paris to her fate; even these gentlemen are not sneered at in the streets of London, though we cannot help girding at them in this way-side article. If London is ever in danger, and Paris finds her city crowded with strong-limbed Englishmen, we give our old allies full permission to hiss them in every café, and lampoon them in every newspaper.

R. W. Johnson, Esq., of Bricklehampton Hall, has compiled an interesting pamphlet on the cultivation of beet, with a view to sugar manufacture.

The *Gentleman's Annual* is the title of a new work. It will be the New Year's supplement to the *Gentleman's Magazine.*

The *Illustrated Midland News* will produce another splendid coloured picture for Christmas, from the work of a Midland Counties' artist.

The new daily paper for Birmingham, of which George Dawson is to be the editor, will appear in February.

The *London Figaro* has gone into the premises lately occupied by *The Tomahawk*, next door to the *Illustrated London News.*

We understand (says *The Era*) that her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to accept the dedication of Mr. Benedict's oratorio *St. Peter*, which produced so agreeable an impression at the Birmingham Musical Festival.

Some time ago the Russian chemist, Jacoby, obtained by means of the electric current what was believed to be absolutely pure iron. But some investigations of Klein have lately shown that this substance contains large quantities of hydrogen.

NEW PATENTS.

(Contributed by Messrs. Payne and Talbot, 1, Bennett's-hill, and 56, Ann-street, Birmingham.)

Improvements in or applicable to machinery for spinning and twisting fibrous substances. J. Hopkinson, Lower Town, Yorkshire, and R. Newton, Keighley, Yorkshire.

A new or improved distance signal alarum for railways. E. Fannell, Brighton, Sussex.

Improvements in lubricators. C. D. Austin, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Improvements in clickouts or tools for drawing nails, spikes, and bolts out of timber or other materials. J. N. Taylor, North Shields, Northumberland.

A new or improved apparatus for registering or indicating figures or numbers, applicable to seats of chairs, weighing machines, and other useful purposes. J. Bailey, Wandsworth Road, Surrey.

An improved varnish paint. J. Sampson and J. R. Minton, Liverpool.

Improved apparatus for steering ships. T. A. Hickley and W. Utling, London. (A communication from J. Porter and H. Perkins, New South Wales.)

Improvements in feeding apparatus for carding engines. G. Parsons, Martock, Somersetshire,

Improvements in chairs and fastenings for rails for railways. W. B. Quelch, Stapleton, Durham.

Certain improvements in metallic adjusters, applicable for adjusting braces, garters, and other articles of dress, and which said improvements are also applicable for suspending curtains or other drapery. F. A. Harrison and C. Priestland, Birmingham.

An improved portable oven, a modificator of which may also be used for heating apartments. J. Wadsworth. Manchester.

Improvement in constructing and fitting brackets for shop windows and other purposes. J. R. Cadman, London.

Improvements in tube cutters and screw stocks. H. J. T. Piercy, Birmingham.

Improvements in sheet metal saddle-trees. W. Johnson, Little Malvern, Worcestershire.

Improvements in horse hoes. G. Dradman, Hatfield Peverel, Essex.

Improvements in anchors, and in the gear for facilitating the dropping, weighing, and boarding of anchors. F. R. A. Glover, Bradding, Isle of Wight.

An improved treatment and application of olive and stearic acids for protecting metallic surfaces from oxidation, and preserving wood and other materials. A. T. Anquetic, Paris.

Improvements in looms for weaving. T. Smith, Leigh, Lancashire.

An improved combined washing machine and ironing table. O. H Weed, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.

Improvements in reducing metal rods, bars, and tubes, and in apparatus in connection therewith. H. Hughes, Homerton, Middlesex.

Improved machinery applicable for inland navigation W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from M. Jackson, Pesth, Austria.)

Improvements in attaching door and other knobs to their spindles. B. Baugh and B. Walters, Birmingham.

Improvements in guns, and projectiles therefor. A. Taylor, Lydbury, Salop.

Improvements in applying heat, and in apparatus for applying heat in various chemical and other operations, such as roasting, oxidising, calcining, decomposing, and volatilising. J. Townsend, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, N.B.

An improved device for operating the throttle valve or regulator in locomotive engines, and for other like purposes. A. V. Newton, London. (A communication from H. L. Brevoort, New York, U. S.

An improved spring fastening for securing purses, pocket-books, cigar-cases, and similar articles, and for other like purposes. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from M. Bronard, Paris.)

An improved fastening for leggings, garters, stays, and corsets. B. Boinbaum, London.

Improvements in holding frames or brackets, or apparatus for holding and securing cash, deed, and jewel boxes, or other portable articles of value. J. G. Charlick, London.

Improvements in machinery for engraving or etching rollers for calico printers. R. Leake, Manchester, and H. Larkin Zernon, Essex.

Improvements in producing light from heavy hydrocarbons, and in apparatus for that purpose. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from R. S. Merrice, Norfolk, Massachusetts, U. S.

Improvements in thrashing machines. H. Brinsmead and R. Lyons, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Improvements in machinery or apparatus and vessels for feeding, dusting, stirring, mixing, or kneading flour, and heating or boiling water or liquids for the manufacture of bread, biscuits, cakes, puddings, paste, buns, muffins, crumpets, and other articles of food, which improvements are also applicable to beating or mixing, heating or boiling, various ingredients or plastic substances, churning, or other purposes. E. Stevens, London.

Improvements in apparatus for preparing finings for fining beer and other liquours. G. A. Terry, Burnham, Bucks. (A communication from A. Terry, Australia.)

Improvements in means or apparatus for facilitating the preparation of the uppers of boots and shoes. P. Schwartz, London. (A communication from M. Giessner, Paris.)

An improved feed-water apparatus for steam boilers. J. Wozniakowski, St. Petersburg, Russia.

Improved means for drying substances impregnated with moisture. T. M. Hopkins, Surrey.

Improvements in preparing charcoal for decolorising syrups and other solutions. G. Phillips, London.

Improvements in combining or coupling locomotives and other railway rolling stock. H. Dubs and S. G. Goodall-Copestake, Glasgow, Lanarkshire.

Improvements in apparatus for the manufacture of gas. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from E. D. McCracken, H. J. Newton, H. B. Kirkland, and J. R. Husson, New York, U. S.)

Improvements in knitting machines. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from the Hinkley Knitting Machine Company, Bath, Maine, U. S.)

Improvements in railway and other wrappers. A. Stewart, London.

Improvements in balance elevators. A. H. Brandon, Paris. (A communication from C. B. Sawyer, and J. W. Labarce, and P. W. Brewster, Massachusetts, U. S.)

(*Patents upon which the £50 Stamp Duty has been paid*).

A new or improved material for decorative purposes. J. Rust, Lambeth, Surrey.

Improvements in the construction of rotary pumps. H. Forbes, London.

Improvements in apparatus for ventilating rooms and buildings. W. Potts, Handsworth, Staffordshire.

Improvements in the manufacture of Epsom salts. A. Ziegele, London. (A communication from Vorster and Gruneberg, Cologne, Prussia).

Improvements in apparatus or arrangements for warming and ventilating buildings. W. Woodcock, Pimlico, Middlesex.

Improvements in the manufacture of candles and in moulds for the same. F. Meyer and W. Wainwright, junr., London.

Improvements in mules for spinning and doubling. B. Dobson and R. Halliwell, Bolton, Lancashire.

Improvements in candles and in moulds for moulding the same. J. L. Field, London.

Improvements in machinery for the manufacture of nails and spokes. G. Mellor, Yorkshire.

Improvements in centrifugal machines for separating liquid from solid matters. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from D. M. Weston, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.)

Improvements in preparing the surface of paper or other material for drawing purposes, and in the application of the same to lithographic and other kinds of printing. T. Nelson, Edinburgh.

Improvements in the manufacture of wheat and other grain into flour, and in the machinery connected therewith. T. J. Barker, Farndon, Nottingham.

The *Stationer* says that there is a church near Bergem, capable of containing nearly a thousand people, which church is constructed entirely of old rags and paper. The facias, statues, roof, ceiling, corinthians, and capitol are all of papier machié, made waterproof by being saturated with vitriol, lime water, curds, and white of egg.

The first civil marriage in Vienna took place on the 16th inst. The bridegroom was the editor of a Vienna paper, and both he and the bride declared to the magistrate that they professed no special creed, and were therefore desirous of availing themselves of the privilege of being married without the intervention of a priest, under the new laws. After the ceremony the bridegroom thanked the magistrate in a short speech, and gave some money for the poor-box.

Rustic Simplicity.—A short time ago the traveller of a Bristol tobacconist was ill and unable to go his rounds. The proprietor himself was therefore under the necessity of doing so, and calling upon a customer at Minehead, he presented his account and requested payment. The customer refused, as he was a stranger to her. He told her that he came in the place of Mr.——, who was ill, but as she had no advice to this effect she would not pay him. He then told her that he was the proprietor himself. "Oh, then," she said, "I am sure I shan't pay you, for your not a bit like Mr.——, that is on the 'baccy papers!"—*Bristol Times and Mirror.*

Bardolph's Nose.—Bardolph had made desperate love to one of the prettiest girls in Glasgow, but she had hardly recovered from the shock of his "make up" in the entertainment, "when the parting days came." "I never saw such a dreadful man in all my days as ye were," said the pretty girl when Bardolph presented himself after the play. "Why did ye not tak' the part o' the Prince?" This gave Bardolph a twinge of jealousy which threatened the peace of His Royal Highness. "I would hae liked ye better if ye had played the Prince. Whatever did ye do to your nose?" Bardolph's nose was an incessant trouble. Nobody saw the actor for his nose. If the part were criticised, the writer forgot everything but the nose. On the stage and off the stage, Bardolph's nose was girded at with a savage delight. The hardest cut of all was the pretty Scotch lassie's objection. I believe Bardolph would have proposed for the young lady's hand, but for this shadow which fell upon their intercourse—this terrible shadow of "the burning lamp."—*Reminiscences of Mark Lemon, in the Gentleman's Magazine for October.*

Important.—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent saved in value. [24

War Maps.—One of the best War Maps published, is that presented through the medium of the Grocers, by the manufacturers of the Glenfield Starch, to all purchasers of that article. Grocers may have them by applying direct. [710

Advice to Mothers.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694

Holloway's Pills.—All our Faculties.—Almost all disorders of the human body are distinctly traceable to impure blood. The purification of that fluid is the first step towards health. Holloway's Pills are not only recommended, but recommend themselves to the attention of all sufferers; no injurious consequences can result from their use, no mistake can be made in their administration. In indigestion, confirmed dyspepsia, and chronic constipation the most beneficial effects have been, and cannot but be, obtained from the rectifying power exerted by these purifying Pills over the digestion. Persons have been restored to the enjoyment of ease, strength, and perfect health by Holloway's Pills, after fruitless trial of the whole pharmacopœia of Physic, attest this fact. [42

Diet for the Million.—Wealth no longer monopolises the luxuries of life. Persons in the most moderate circumstances can have a delicious dessert daily for a sum so trifling that it is scarcely worth naming. They can take their choice of fifty delicate dishes (each one of which the most fastidious epicure would smack his lips over), at a cost which, in these dear times, may well be called nominal. Custards, creams, blanc-mange, Charlotte Russe puddings, pies, creams, cakes, and jellies are included in this cheap and varied bill of fare. Sea Moss Farine is the most health-giving, delicious, and economical food in the world; composed entirely of refined sea-moss, and prepared with such delicacy as to retain only its nutritious qualities and exquisite flavour. A shilling packet will produce sixteen quarts of blanc-mange, custard pudding, &c. It is certainly incomparable in cheapness, excellence, and the facility with which it can be placed upon the tables of either rich or poor. In shilling packets of all Grocers and Chemists.—Rand Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn London. [21

DER BREITMANN'S VATERLAND.

The literary reputation that depends upon oddities of spelling and broken language (peculiarly American) takes a good deal of upholding, for when the work is put into plain language there is often little or nothing in it, and the spelling, &c. wherein lies the charm, can be imitated. To bear out this assertion we reprint the following poem, which has appeared in the *Standard.* It was published under the head of "Breitmann's Vaterland." A letter has since been published in the *Standard* from Mr. Leland (Hans Breitmann), who asserts that he is not the author of the poem, and he protests against such a use of his name. The poem is certainly a good imitation, and but for Mr. Leland's letter its genuineness would probably not have been doubted.

King Breitmann fiel in Schlumber,
He treamt von creat pick tream,
So real and so intense it was,
Like Wirklichkeit it seem.
He treamt he blay at nine-bins
Mit his brother monarchs all,
De monarchs vere de nine-bins
Und das Vaterland de ball.

He called his Staatsgeheimrath,
"Come, read dis tream of mine"—
He shmiled:—"It means das Vaterland
Muss noch viel grösser sein!
Vat business has de Latin race
To live und breathe und eat?
Das Vaterland allein hat recht,
De Latin must retreat."

Den efery man droughout de land,
Den arm him vor de vray,
Mit schwert und helm und neetle-cun
Dey arm dem day by day,
Und ven in mild remonshtrance
De neighpours do brodest
Dat dey by dready have forsworn
Deir neighpours to molest.

"Was geht mir an der dready!"
Der König Breitmann say,
"In Baden, Saxe, und Baiern
Dey undertake to bay
Mit arms und men und money.
(I know vat I am at),
Und if dey should refuse it,
By dam I'll have deir hat!" *
"Mit all of us und all of dem,
Ve may defy de world,
Und efery king ich liebe nicht
Soll vrom his trone pe hurled."

Den up und shopke ein Kaiser,
Ein rechte braver man;
"Such arrogance I can't allow;
I'll shtop it if I can.
Komm out und fecht mit schwert und cun,
Komm arm you vor de vight,
Und I vill do vat von man can
To straf such üppigkeit."

Der König Breitmann shmiled a shmile,
"So vould I have it sein!"
Den raised de cry of Vaterland
Und sang de "Wacht am Rhein,"
Und as von leetle Funke
Eksshplodes in powder dry,
So rose das ganze Deutschland
At dat convenient cry.

Dey shtop not to enquire
If dey have right or wrong,
Dey only sing de Vaterland,
Dat everlasting song.
"Against de Kaiser I do vight,
Und not against his lands."
'Tis dus de König Breitmann spoke
As on he led his bands.

Und dis is how dey tid it
(It vas a royal joke),
Dey pound de schöne cities
Und dey kill de beaceful folk;
Dey batter de Catedrals,
Dey pound dem mit de shot,
Old men, and fraus, and kinder,
Py dam dey catch it hot!

Und ven dey take de Kaiser
('Tis against him dey vight)
Dey batter de Catedrals still
Mit all deir main and might.
Und ven de land ist desolate,
Dey ask as terms of peace,
A fleet of iron-glats to pound
An Isle beyond de seas.

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* Much controversy has arisen as to the origin of this popular expression. It is generally believed to have originated with Cromwell's Puritan's, who, when refused anything, would reply, "I'll halve your hat," meaning "I will cleave your hat into two equal parts with my two-handed sword, and deal in like manner with the head beneath it."

VICE ADMIRAL DE LA RONCIERE LE NOURY.

The French naval officer whose portrait appears on this page was appointed, at the outset of this War, to the command of the marine gunners holding garrison in the detached forts of Paris. As a commander of marines he holds a distinguished position, and his troops have great confidence in him. He was born at Turin in 1813. He made several voyages in the South Seas, and for many years he occupied the position of an aide-de-camp to Admiral La Susse. As chief of staff of the Mediterranean Fleet he commanded, from 1853 to 1855, the *Roland*, and in that capacity he won honours in the Crimean War. In 1856 he commanded Prince Napoleon's scientific expedition on the North Seas. In 1858 he was placed at the head of the Naval Division of Newfoundland. In 1860 he commanded the Levant Fleet, and was nominated, first, Rear Admiral, and next Chief of Staff to the Minister of Marine. In 1867 he brought back the French army from Mexico, and in the following year was made Vice-Admiral. He has been several times a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and since 1866 he has held the distinction of a grand officer of the Legion of Honour.

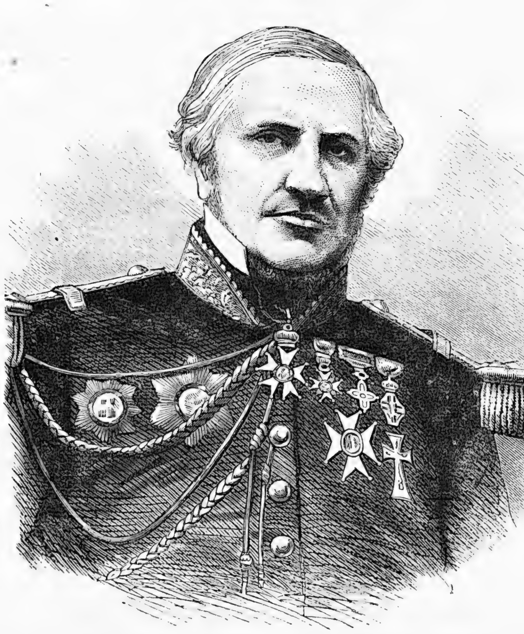
THE FRENCH FREE CORPS.

In the engraving which follows the portrait of Vice-Admiral de la Ronciere is represented the scene of the enrolment of the French Free Corps at the Palace de l'Elysée. The first Free Corps that went out to the war numbered 8,000, well drilled, and armed with long carbines. They guarded the principal passes of the Vosges mountains until the army of McMahon was compelled to fall back, and they rendered effective service. It was when they sent for reinforcements that the scene depicted in our sketch, of the enrolment of recruits, took place. These were organized at the Palace de l'Elysée under the command of Colonel Achille Lafon and Lieut. Mocquart. These were the "Franc-tireurs," from whose active and courageous movements in advance of the main army and in harrassing the outskirts of the army so much was expected, and they followed the more experienced bodies who went before them to the Vosges amid the cheers and best wishes of the populace. Their work on the Vosges mountains is at an end, their duty now is to annoy the enemy close outside the walls of the capital.

The West India Telegraph Cables.—A telegram from Sir Charles Bright, dated Morant Point, Jamaica, the 15th inst., announces to the India-Rubber Telegraph Company that he has laid the Jamaica section of the West India Cables, and that the line will be opened in a few days.

Macaulay as a Speaker.—Macaulay, like Demosthenes, never trusted his success to fortune. All his speeches, or at least the principal parts, were, like Lord Brougham's, written out beforehand, learned by rote, and then poured forth in the House of Commons in the style of a Pundit repeating the Vedas, without the omission of a particle, and at the same time apparently without anything but the very slightest appreciation of their meaning. There are but two speeches of Macaulay's that make any pretension to be impromptus—that in reply to Orator Hunt on the Anatomy Bill, and that on the War with China; and it does not require the eye of a critic to trace out considerable passages even in these that had been jotted down at his desk and turned over in his memory in the course of his walk from Lincoln's Inn to the House. This habit of preparing his speeches grew upon him so strongly in the course of years, that it was a positive pain and embarrassment to him at last to be called upon to speak even a dozen sentences off-hand.—*Charles Pebody on "Edinburgh Reviewers" in Gentleman's Magazine.*

Some amusing illustrations of the fondness of negroes for long words are given by Mr. Macrae in his book descriptive of scenes in American life. Once, when addressing a negro prayer meeting, Mr. Macrae spoke of this life as a state of probation. "A coloured gentleman who followed me improved my observation by reminding the meeting, with great vehemence, that, "as our white brudder says, we is all in a state of prohibition." Another man was in the habit of using in his prayers the tremendous word, "disarumgumtigated"—the origin or significance of which no one in the place had ever been able to discover. He prayed that "their good pastor might be disarumgumtigated," and that "de white teachers who had come from so far to construct de poor coloured folks might be disarumgumtigated." The homeliness and directness of the negro prayers sometimes produce a very ludicrous effect. Mr. Macrae says that he was sometimes singled out and prayed for as "de white gemman in de corner," or "de white brudder near de door."

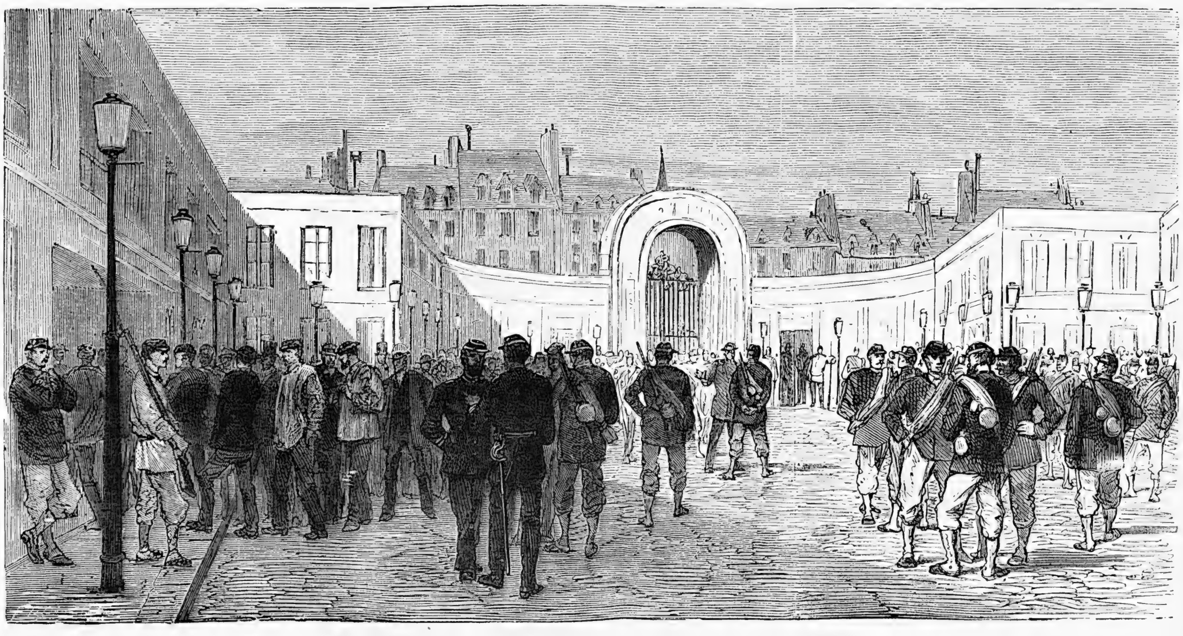


THE FRENCH VICE-ADMIRAL DE LA RONCIERE LE NOURY.

Tramways.—Notices have been given as to tramways in the north and north-western districts of the metropolis, where the new Act of Parliament to facilitate the construction and to regulate the working of tramways will shortly be enforced. This Act has reference to all parts of the United Kingdon except Ireland. The construction of tramways is by the new law greatly facilitated. Provisional orders, authorising the construction of tramways, may be obtained by the local authority of any place, and in certain cases the Board of Trade may dispense with the consent of the local or road authority. The promoters in October and November are to publish notice of their intention to make such applications by advertisements, and to deposit documents at the periods mentioned, the Board of Trade to make provisional orders. A tramway is to be constructed as nearly as possible, in the "middle of the road" in a town. A provisional order is to specify the nature of the traffic on tramways and the tolls to be set forth. The promoters are to deposit 4 per cent, on the estimated expense, and the provisional order to be confirmed by an Act of Parliament. Tramways may be constructed under special Acts or provisional orders. There are sixty-four sections in the statute, with several schedules.

The Uses of Mushrooms.—Although the grass crop has been unusually light throughout England, the pastures are now producing a compensatory harvest of mushrooms beyond all precedent. Now is the time for gratifying that taste for agarics which ignorance and prejudice have combined to stifle, but which exist in the breast of every gastronome. The merits of the common mushroom, either broiled, stewed, pickled, or in ketchup, are well known, but enthusiastic mycophagists assure us that they who venture further into the realms of fungi are richly rewarded for their hardihood. The champignon is asserted by high authority to have the strongest and most delicious aroma, and yet its use in England is almost confined to the French à la mode beef shops; the parasol agaric, which when once it has been identified can never be forgotten, makes an admirable pie when mixed with bacon and potatoes. The chantarelle, dried or kept in oil, is valuable for winter use; and even the common puff ball, if picked young and fried in thin slices with batter, is no bad substitute for omelette. Even the *agaricus muscarius* most lovely and most deadly of fungi, has its own proper uses. Taken internally as a powder it is said to be efficacious in epileptic cases; and the juice rubbed upon walls and bed posts destroys those pestilent intruders which at this season of the year are not unknown in other quarters beside seaside lodging houses.

Stoppage of a Sheffield Firm.—A meeting has been called of the creditors of Messrs. Gaine, Micklethwaithe, and Company, of Sheffield and Birmingham, merchants, &c. Most of the creditors are in the two towns in which the firm have places of business.—*Sheffield Telegraph*



ENROLMENT OF A FREE CORPS AT THE PALACE DE L'ELYSEE.

AMWELL.

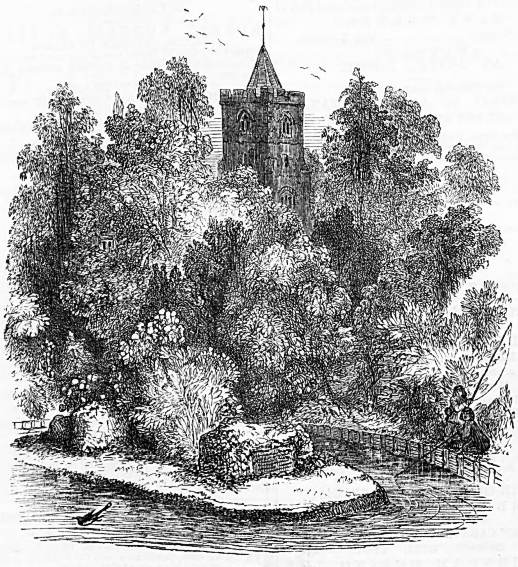
Amwell is celebrated as the birth-place of John Scott, the Quaker poet, whose works are now known only to a few. Boswell was on terms of friendship with the poet of Amwell. Scott died in December, 1783. In September, 1784, Johnson, answering an application to him to narrate the good man's life, wrote, "As I have made some advances towards recovery, and loved Scott, I am willing to do justice to his memory." Three months later Johnson himself died. Amwell is a lovely little spot. We wind along a green lane on a pleasant ascent, and are beneath a high bank where the well-preserved windows of the church peep from behind the richest foliage. Scott thus describes this charming spot. The eye

On Amwell rests at last, its favourite scene.
How picturesque the view! where up the side
Of that steep bank her roofs of russet thatch
Rise, mix'd with trees, above whose swelling tops
Ascends the tall church tower, and loftier still
The hill's extended ridge. How picturesque!
Where slow beneath that bank the silver stream
Glides by the flowery isle, and willow groves
Wave on its northern verge, with trembling tufts
Of osier intermix'd. How picturesque
The slender group of airy elm, the clump
Of pollard oak, or ash, with ivy brown
Entwined; the walnut's gloomy breadth of boughs,
The orchard's ancient fence of rugged pales,
The haystack's dusty cone, the moss-grown shed,
The clay-built barn, the elder-shaded cot.

Now the scene has a more finished appearance than in the days of its poet. The russet thatch of the elder-shaded cot has given place to the trim roof of the rose-covered villa. But the natural features—the steep bank, the flowery island and the trees are still the same. On the island there is an urn to the memory of Middleton, and on the bank is a stone inscribed by the contemplative Quaker:—

Amwell, perpetual be thy stream,
  Nor e'er thy spring be less,
Which thousands drink who never dream
  Whence flows the boon they bless.

Too often thus ungrateful man
  Blind and unconscious lives,
Enjoys kind Heaven's indulgent plan,
  Nor thinks of Him who gives.

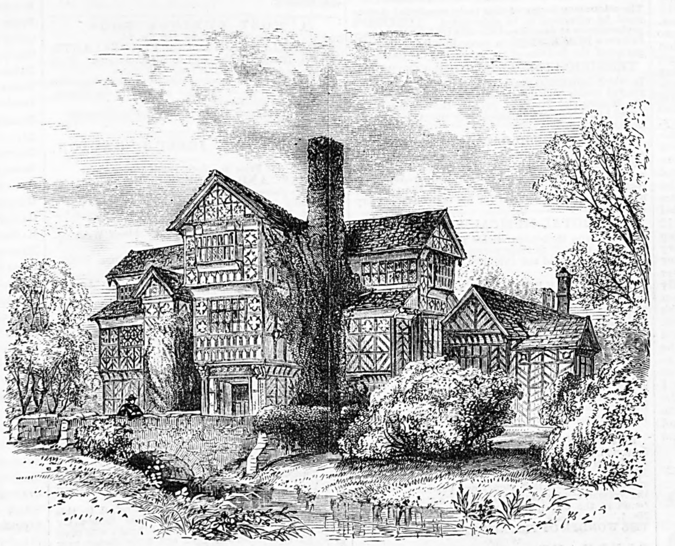


AMWELL.

The Devil Duped.—No great while ago the rector of a small country parish in the neighbourhood of Barnstaple was engaged in the good work of restoring the chancel of his church, which had fallen out of decent repair during previous years of indifference and quietism. One morning the workmen who were then removing the chancel floor came to him in a great triumph, with a small stone box in their hands, "Here a be, Zur!" said they, "Us allus sed az ow us ud vaind mun!" After due examination of the relic, and much inquiry into the matter, the rector pieced together the following story, which is still devoutly credited in the village in question. There was a certain young woman, a parishioner of the last rector, who, though not without personal attractions, was without the orthodox sweetheart in which country maidens are wont to indulge. She was constantly twitted by her companions with this omission of hers, and one day, as she was just setting off on horseback to Barnstaple Fair, the jeering became so excessive that, in a passion, she said she would get a sweetheart at the fair even if it were the "gentleman-in-black" himself. So she rode away alone; and came back alone, not having succeeded in attaching to herself the requisite follower during the day. Just, however, as evening was closing in, and she was nearing her home, she was accosted by a dark, good-looking stranger, with whom she fell into friendly conversation, and found him to be so agreeable, that she speedily invited him to mount her horse, and to conclude his remarks in her own house. After this the stranger demeaned himself as a recognised sweetheart would; he was constantly calling at her house, and speedily became the favourite subject of the village gossips, who all agreed that he was—no better than he should be, and, probably, a great deal worse. He had a strange habit of arriving about nightfall, and departing shortly before daybreak—which, naturally, scandalised the good people of the village; and at last it became a common thing for some of the more adventurous boys and maidens to assemble in a crowd before the windows of the house where he was, and to strive, vainly enough, to see what was going on inside the carefully closed shutters. But they had the satisfaction of hearing loud laughter and singing; and it was discovered that the unknown sweetheart had a deep rich voice, and sang beautiful songs which had never been heard before in North Devon. But the end of such improper proceedings was, of course, to be expected, and it finally came in a very unexpected manner. One fine morning the parson of the parish received an urgent summons to come immediately to the house which had so long furnished a subject of conversation to its neighbours. On his arrival a strange scene presented itself. "The unknown" was not visible; but his unlucky lady-love, in a state more or less dishabille, was seen to be jammed painfully and hopelessly between her bedstead and the wall; and no efforts, either of her own or those of her friends were powerful enough to extricate her from her novel pillory. She struggled and the neighbours pulled; and the parson pulled; but it was all in vain. Neither she nor the bedstead could be moved the sixteenth of an inch from their unpleasant proximity. At last, in answer to the repeated exhortations of the rector, she confessed that her sweetheart was indeed not nearly so good as he ought to be, and that she was no better than she should be, and that she was now reaping the consequences of the rash speech she had once made. She knew, she added, that she must remain where she was till midnight, and then her fatal sweetheart was to come and take her away. Still, she said, there was one hope left. If seven parsons were to be gathered together in the room, and were to solemnly "say words" over her, she would be released, and her late companion would have no further power over her. But, as the rector justly remarked, such a revelation was of no material use to her, for in so thinly populated a neighbourhood it was impossible to gather seven parsons within the specified time; and even if, by a stretch of her "lover's" politeness, dissenting ministers were allowed to count, the number could not be made up by midnight. Messengers, were, however, despatched in all directions for the desired ecclesiastical aid, and meanwhile the strong secular arm of many an able-bodied neighbour vainly tried to remove the obdurate bedstead and the lamenting damsel from their magical contact. Day wore on, and the parsons did not arrive; night came without them. Lights were lit in the chamber where the tragedy was so soon to be consummated, and the hours rolled on as slowly as they do when many people are congregated to see a sad and awful sight which no power of theirs can avert. At last, a very short while before the destined hour of midnight, a sudden thought—a ray of hope—darted across the rector's perturbed mind. Sternly calling for silence from the lamenting friends and neighbours of the unhappy woman, he solemnly addressed the beguiling Spirit of Darkness, and bade him answer. Immediately, in response, a faintly perceptible smell of brimstone was diffused throughout the room. Thus encouraged the rector proceeded to exhort the source of the disagreeable odour, bidding him to be ashamed of his persecution of a helpless woman, and asking that, at least, some further time of grace should be allowed her. But no sound was heard in reply only a manifest increase of brimstone fumes showed that the spirit was present, and lively, and determined to exact the terms of his bargain to the uttermost. Still the rector was not discouraged. "Then," he cried, seizing one of the candles, now almost burnt out, "if you will not grant her such grace, you could not for very shame's sake refuse to release her and let her be—until this short candle be burnt out." A sudden and awful concussion in the room and the immediate removal of the sulphurous smell betokened the spirit's assent to this harmless proposal. Whereupon the rector promptly blew the candle out, carried it away with him, and did not rest that night till he had secured it in a strong stone box, and buried it with his own hands, beneath the chancel floor of his own church, where it remained thenceforth in perfect security, beyond the reach of the angry machinations of the baffled fiend.—*Hierologus.*

How to Get Room.—A man in a crowd found room quickly by telling a neighbour that he was sitting on his revolver.

Good News for Mosquitos.—A gentleman who has lived in a mosquito neighbourhood for several years, and has had a good opportunity to study the effects of having been bitten, gives his advice as follows:—"A good remedy is to let the biting operation be continued until finished. If, when the insect has alighted, inserted his beak and injected the poison, the hand of the victim comes down and finishes the insect's earthly career, the poison remains in the wound, and pain is experienced. If, however, the operation is not interrupted, and the voracions monster has leave to drink his fill, he naturally draws back into his own abdominal cavities the rankling poison, in company with the sufferer's blood. The sufferer will then feel but little inconvenience from the bite."—*American Paper.*



OLD MORETON HALL.

OLD MORETON HALL.

A few weeks ago we gave an engraving of the interior of the Court of Old Moreton Hall, Cheshire, stating that we had a larger illustration of the Hall in preparation—a south-east view, which we now give on this page. For particulars concerning the history of Old Moreton Hall we refer our readers to the *Illustrated Midland News* of August 6.

Reasons for going to a Theatre.—Mr. E. L. Blanchard in his article on "London amusements," published in last Friday's *Birmingham Gazette* says "there are two excellent reasons for going to a theatre. One because we have never seen the piece before; the other because we want to see it again. It is quite safe to assert that the whole play-going community is influenced by one or other of these notions. A novelty of any kind is a sensation worth experiencing. It gives a sort of fillip to existence. It enables us to enjoy the proud consciousness of being wiser than we were the previous minute, and to acquire a greater respect for the privilege of living. It is especially the province of the srage to gratify this instinctive feeling. What we see in a theatre for the first time is generally recorded in the place of the last inscription erased from the tablets of memory. Matters of much more importance may have faded away from our remembrance, or the images may have become confused and blurred, but the incidents in the first drama we ever witnessed will cling to our recollection with surprising tenacity, and even in extreme old age the minutest details of the scene that impressed the youthful imagination will readily be recalled. It is on this basis that the hope for the enduring existence of the drama must most securely rest. As long as human nature remains the same, there will always exist a desire to enjoy some new pleasure, and to this requirement the theatre ministers in the most convenient way. What is, however, especially to be noted—as helping to sustain a faith in the vitality of the dramatic art—is the peculiar power which the theatre alone possesses of heightening that enjoyment when we seek its renewal on a future occasion. Most of the pleasures of life pall upon repetition, but when we behold a play in advanced years that afforded us delight in our youth, we receive enhanced satisfaction. Hence the success of revivals. The old playgoer calls to mind the original cast, the freshness of his youth returns, he conjures up a host of pleasant objects associated with his boyhood's experience, and if the comparison between the present and the past should be somewhat unfavourable to the "present"—as it generally will be—the influence of the old world of illusion still makes itself manifest, and he passes out of the portal with all the "shreds and patches" of his early recollections pieced together. Between these two supports the drama is not likely to come to the ground. Novelties and reproductions will ever possess in a different way an equal charm, and with a fair amount of excellence in either it would be hard to say which yields the greatest amount of gratification."

Modern Paragraphing in America.—["That was a bitter joke of the man in New Jersey who put a quantity of jalap in some beer his friend was about to drink. The funeral was very generally attended." —*Exchange.*] — We don't know who originated the above manner of stating a fatal occurrence, but it seems a very delicate way of putting it. We get the whole story suggestively, and without our sensibilities being shocked. This new style of paragraphing affords a fine field for the exercise of ingenuity, in conveying the intelligence that a man died. As, for instance, the following:—A man in New Hampshire, the other day, ate fifteen dozen raw oysters for a wager. The silver trimmings on his coffin cost twelve dollars and thirty-five cents.—A young man in Louisville examined a keg of damaged powder with a red-hot poker, to see if it was good. It is believed by his friends that he is gone to Europe, although a man has found some human bones and a piece of shirt about twenty miles from Louisville.—John Smith, in Nebraska said he could handle a rattlesnake the same as a snake charmer. The churlishness of the undertaker in demanding pay in advance delayed the funeral four days.—A circus rider in Texas, tried to turn three somersaults on horseback the other day. The manager sent to New Orleans for another somersault man.—A man in New Jersey couldn't wait for the cars to get to the depôt, and jumped off. His widow sued the insurance company. Few men would attempt to dry dampened gunpowder in a kitchen stove. A man in Canada did. His afflicted family would be glad of any information as to his whereabouts.—In Massachusetts, the other day, a man thought he could cross the tract in advance of a locomotive. The services at the grave were very impressive.—A man warned his wife in New Orleans not to light the fire with kerosene. She didn't heed the warning. Her clothes fit his second wife remarkably well.—A boy in Detroit disregarded his mother's injunction not to skate on the river, as the ice was thin. His mother don't have to cook for as many as she formerly did.—*Cincinnati Times.*

Machinery in Japan.—At Sakai, the port of Osaka for the largest junks, a cotton mill has been erected by the Prince of Satzuma; it has a 12-horse power engine, driving 2,000 spindles, and is capable of making 150 lb. of yarn per day, but there are no looms. The imports into Japan in 1869 included cotton manufactures of the value of 5,251,324 dollars; and woollen manufactures, 2,010,553 dollars; arms and ammunition, 1,857,625 dollars. Imports of machinery into Japan continue — machinery for mining, rice-cleaning, cloth-weaving, sugar-refining, and the like, but not agricultural machinery; the primative instruments of field labour are still used, THE CENSUS.—The Census of Great Britain and Ireland will be taken in a single day—Sunday, the 1st April, 1871, previously to which papers will be left at every dwelling, to be filled by the occupant "with the particulars of the names, age, sex, rank, profession or occupation, condition, relation to the head of the family, and birth-place of every person who abode in the house on the night of the 1st of April, 1871."

"JACK AND JILL" DONE INTO HEROICS.—"I have got something for you, my boy," cried the professor cheerfully; "listen, and read me this riddle aright:—

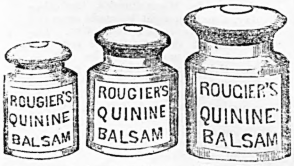
Not upon Alpine snows or ice,
 But homely English ground;
EXCELSIOR was their high device,
 But low the fate they found.
They did not go for love of Fame,
 But at stern Duty's call;
They were united in their aim,
 Divided in their fall."

None of us guessed it until the professor assisted us by remarking that it was a simple English ballad "paraphrased or travestied." "Then I've got it," cried Mrs. Housewife. "Its

Jack and Jill went up the hill
 To fetch a pail of water;
Jack fell down and broke his crown,
 And Jill came tumbling after."

"You are sharper than all the rest of them put together," exclaimed the professor, admiringly. —*Chambers's Journal.*

STOPPING THE COACH.—A passenger by Wells, Fargo, and Co.'s stage coach across the Plains, writing to the Helena *Herald*, says:—"Reaching Pleasant Valley about 9 p. m., I saw indications of some anxiety on the part of the driver and guard, both of whom were armed with shot guns and revolvers. We passed the first station south of Pleasant Valley safely. But it was between this and the next that we expected the fun. Lieutenant Hamliton, of Fort Ellis was with me, and the three Chinamen. I only had one weapon of defence. As the coach ascended from the bed of Dry Creek, this is what caught our ears—Click, click, click! Halt,' and, like an apparition, the 'road agents, sprang from the rocks a few feet fromthe coach. One drew his Henry rifle on the leaders, the next on the driver' and the third paid his compliments to the lieutenant an myself by placing the muzzle of his needle-gun in rather uncomfortable proximity to our ears. I instantly seized my 'navy,' but a touch of caution from Hamilton advised patience. Not knowing what the issue of the affair might be, I concealed my money in the cushion of my seat, by cutting a hole in the leather; my companion had previously placed his in the band of his drawers. The Chinamen were by this time awake, and began their gibberish. I silenced them, and they noted the progress of affairs outside. The driver put on the break the moment they challenged him. He asked them what they wanted. 'the treasure boxes,' said they. 'all right,' said the driver, 'here they are,' and threw out the light one from Virginia city, I believe. 'You have another of these fish,' said the leader. 'Yes,' was the reply. 'Throw it out,' was the command. This was done, and stepping aside he picked up an axe and began chopping the light one open. It took him full 15 minutes, and hard work at that. He emptied its contents. 'There's nothing in that box,' he said, evidently much enraged. He next attacked the Helena box, which contained about 6,000 dollars, I believe. He remarked to the driver, during the progress of opening the boxes, that he was sorry to detain us so long, but it could not be helped—that these things would occur in the best regulated families. 'Are there any passengers aboard?' he said, when he got through with the boxes. 'Yes,' said the driver, 'three Chinamen and two white men.' 'Get out, John,' in a voice that could not be mistaken. We told the boys to get out. They were very unwilling to go, but they finally turned out. The leader held his rifle to their heads and demanded their money. With many protestations of poverty they said they had none. One said, 'Two dollars hap allee, no morey. They would not be satisfied, but with fearful imprecations told them that they would shoot them where they stood if they did not disgorge. One by one he stripped off their tunics and boots, and took what they had. The third and last, who had the largest amount of money (3,700), dollars strung around his neck or in a belt, he handled very roughly. He took his long knife (about 12 inches) and ripped shirt, vest, and coat from top to bottom, and the gold fell out with a heavy thud to the ground. Having finished, they ordered them into the coach and told the driver to 'go on,' much to our relief, indeed, for I fully expected that we should be next. We cannot explain their partiality in our favour, but think that they were afraid to attempt to force us out. I could have easily killed two of them, but it would have been at the expense of the life of one of the men on the box, an issue which I did not like to force. The hind curtains being down, none of them could observe our movements,; hence I had the 'drop' on any one of them except the man who covered the driver, who was a little to far. Thus ended my experience with the 'road agents' of Montana, of whom I have heard and read so much."



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Mary Warner ....Miss BATEMAN.
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The astounding daring of this truly wonderful Artiste must be witnessed to be appreciated. LORENZO'S performances at once dispel the idea that it is necessary to have a BLACK SKIN in order to subdue the wild nature of the denizens of the jungle and the forest.

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In which LORENZO gives striking illustrations of the fearful reality and danger attendant upon the life of the Hunter and Trapper. Such is the absolute command LORENZO has attained over the Animals, that he causes them to

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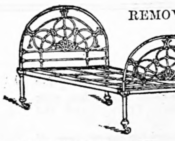

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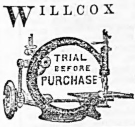

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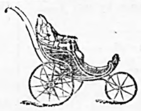

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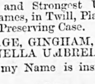

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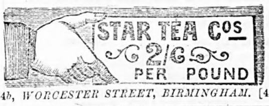

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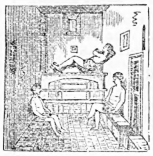

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RIGHT ABOUT FACE! QUICK MARCH!
TO THE
GLOBE HAT WAREHOUSE for a Brilliant Smart HAT, the crowning point of a Gentleman's *personnel.*
BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.
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Enabling the Directors to declare a

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On each sum assured for the five years, and to still hold in reserve all profits accrued on Annuities and Endowments.

EXTRACT FROM LAST ANNUAL REPORT.

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Capital paid up	£289,005	0	0
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JOHN H. McLAREN, *Manager.*
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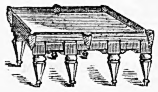

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as manufactured for Her Majesty, the Duke of Edinburgh, &c., are the finest toned, best finished and cheapest Instruments of any yet produced, whether English or Foreign. Gained the ONLY AWARD for ENGLISH MANUFACTURE at the Paris and Dublin Exhibitions. Price Lists post free. 9, 10, & 11, Charles Street, Berners Street, London. A liberal allowance to the Clergy and Institutions. [51

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CURLING FLUID curls ladies' and gentleman's hair immediately it is applied. Sold at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; sent post-free for 54, 84, and 144 stamps. Had of all chemists. [13

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THE Proprietors of the "Illustrated Midland News" are preparing for Christmas one of the most beautiful Coloured Pictures which has ever been produced, not excepting "The Fisherman's Pride" and the "Fruit Girl."

The Work will be from an Original Picture specially purchased for the purpose of this reproduction. There can be no question about the copyright of the work, and the Proprietors promise the Subscribers to the "Illustrated Midland News" a Picture the same size as "The Fisherman's Pride" and of surpassing interest.

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The great demand for space in our Christmas Supplement last year induces us to give timely notice that our Christmas Number this year will excel the last in interest, and, no doubt, in circulation. No Advertisement will be received at less than 1s. 6d. a line, except in the case of contract advertisements appearing for a series of insertions.

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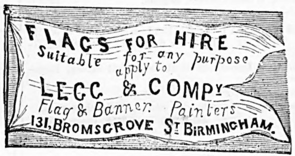

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FLUODENTINE,

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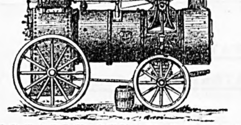

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